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Premier Rachel Notley delivered a televised address Thursday on the economic reality Alberta faces. SCREENSHOT

Flu vaccine targets cut

HEALTH

Reduction is a result of poor 2015-16 results

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Alberta Health is yet again reducing its flu targets for next year, after a lacklustre showing from Albertans who decided to get poked.

After Alberta Health Services recently concluded its immunization program, the government said 27 per cent of Albertans were immunized, though it intended to vaccinate 40 per cent of the population.

As a result, Alberta Health decided to reduce next year's target to 35 per cent, which should be enough to cover the population desiring the vaccine, according to Alberta Health acting chief medical officer Dr. Martin Lavoie.

In 2015, the target had been reduced from 45 to 40 per cent of the population.

Lavoie said last year's virtually ineffective vaccine may have caused some to shy away from getting their shot this year, noting the province normally sees increases in vaccinations annually.

"People tend to lose interest when there's some bad news one year," Lavoie said. "It's a small decrease from 30 per cent last year to 27 per cent this year."

This year's vaccine was more effective compared to last year's, he said, noting the reduced number of hospitalizations in 2014-15 compared to 2015-16.

As of Thursday, 55 Albertans died due to flu-related complications, a dip of 44 deaths from 99 during the same time last year.

The province will again spend \$12.7 million on the vaccine for next year, Lavoie said.

Vaccines will still be available for children requiring a second dose and for sporadic outbreaks until the doses expire.

TABLE TALK Panel and professor weigh in on Notley's address metroNEWS

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Angled parking project planned for Inglewood

CITY PLANNING

Pilot would help create direly needed new spots



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

It's what can only be described as parking magic.

In a neighbourhood where the main stretch is full up, and side streets can only offer so much, the city is looking to help residents with a parking pilot project to free up a few spots.

The pilot is currently in the design phase, but officials hope to start painting lines in Inglewood for angled parking this August. The streets in question are 11 Street between 8th Avenue and 11th Avenue and 13th Street and 14th Street, between 9th and 8th Avenues.

Eric MacNaughton, parking strategist with the City of Calgary, said the initiative can add an average of 4 spots per street in the neighbourhood. The pilot will run for up to a year and



The City of Calgary is in the design phase of parking project slated for Inglewood. KEN APPLEBY/FOR METRO

be evaluated and adjusted as needed.

Aditya Banerjee, who is the chair of the Inglewood Design Initiative and an Inglewood Community Association board member, said that at a recent meeting of 30 to 40 residents there weren't any major ob-

jections about the pilot. For the community he sees it as a win, they get more parking spaces, and it's a pilot project, so any concerns that arise will be heard.

"We're trying to look at opportunities if we can squeeze a few more parking spaces onto a street," MacNaughton said. "That just creates more parking as you get new shops and businesses in the area. It's just more support for people that are coming in and visiting."

MacNaughton added areas

like Bridgeland and Inglewood are still building up and adding more shops, businesses and residential projects, so it's important to get people coming into the neighbourhood from elsewhere — and that takes parking. He said the move will change road width, which will be monitored.

"We're doing some of the design work right now, but at the end of the day it's actually being out in the field and watching how people are driving the street and mak-

ing sure it's actually going to work," MacNaughton said.

This pilot was approved as part of a work plan by city council to have administration look at parking challenges for communities as a whole.

"A lot of these areas, like Inglewood, because they've built up over the years — Inglewood over a century — they're always going to have their own unique needs, or unique street designs, so we always have to adjust for the local conditions," MacNaughton said.

ALBERTA LEGISLATURE

Shooting threats made in call: Staff

A man has been charged after staff say someone phoned the legislature office of Alberta Environment Minister Shannon Phillips and threatened to shoot everyone over the carbon tax.

Michael Enright, an oil products salesman from Camrose, says he didn't make any threats and was simply calling to voice his frustration over the hurt currently being experienced in his industry. "This was nothing. This was me having a bad day," Enright said when contacted by The Canadian Press on Thursday.

Cheryl Sheppard of the Edmonton Police Service said Enright faces one Criminal Code charge of uttering threats.

The call happened a week ago, on March 31, in the middle of the afternoon. "He was calling to express his anger over the carbon tax," a staffer in Phillips's office told police in a statement.

The staffer told police the caller, who refused to identify himself, referred to the minister as a man. When he was reminded Phillips was female, "he told me the NDP only hire people with boobs, not qualified people."

"He then said he was going to get his ammunition and gun and come here and shoot us all," the statement reads.

Sheppard said Enright was charged later that day with assistance from police in Camrose.

Enright said Thursday he has not been in court yet.

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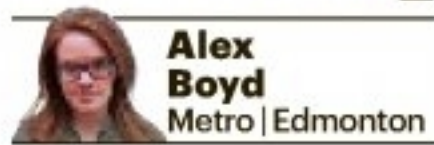
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ECOLOGY

Goldfish population boom worries experts



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

They're hard to control, breed rapidly and eat native plants and plankton — and they're becoming a potential invasive species in our cities.

Yep, goldfish are on the loose in Alberta.

Sarah Cicchini, an environmental co-ordinator with the city of St. Albert, says that city's

goldfish problem started last summer, when a concerned citizen alerted officials that the popular pet had taken over a stormwater pond.

They investigated and found hundreds of goldfish.

"Some were probably finger tips to elbow (in length)," Cicchini said. "I remember looking at a few and being like, 'Oh, you're my arm.'"

Cicchini suspects it started with a regretful pet owner wrongfully thinking dumping

an unwanted goldfish into a stormwater pond was humane.

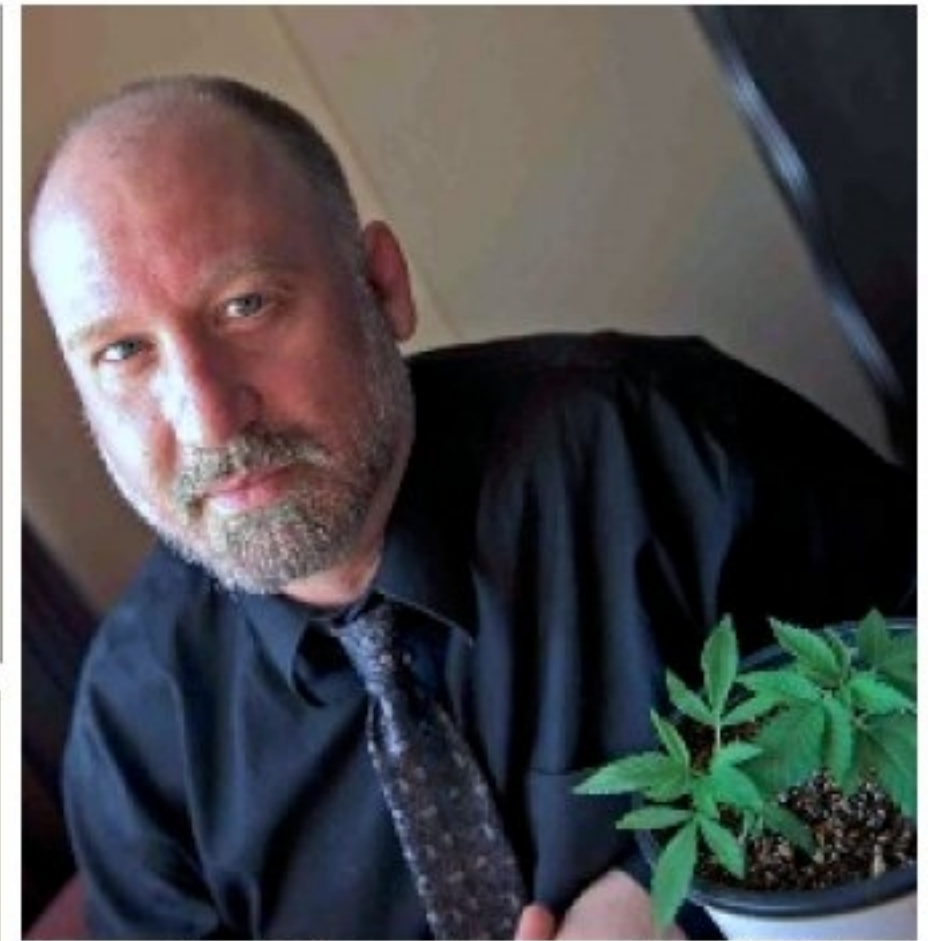
Wildlife experts say goldfish allowed to leave their bowls for city water systems have the potential to wreak havoc on habitat, other fish, or both.

So far, St. Albert officials have (unsuccessfully) tried scooping the unwanted goldfish out with nets, stunning them with an electric current and lowering the water level in the hopes the pond would freeze over this winter. None of it worked.

"I was very unhappy on all of the warm days," Cicchini says. "The fish stayed happy through the winter."

Kate Wilson, an aquatic invasive species specialist with the province, wasn't surprised to get a call from St. Albert.

"They (goldfish) were doing really well. They were reproducing, surviving the winter, all in an unaerated pond quite far north," she said. "That scares me because it means they can virtually live anywhere."



Overgrow Canada director Dana Larsen said despite being arrested he will continue his work and mail seeds to those who request them. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Pot activist out on bail

MARIJUANA

Advocate charged with two counts of trafficking



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

A well-known Vancouver pot activist has been released on bail after being arrested in Calgary for handing out cannabis seeds at a rally he was hosting Wednesday.

Overgrow Canada director Dana Larsen said a volunteer was first arrested for handing out the seeds at the Calgary stop in his cross-Canada tour, but when Larsen found out he presented himself to police.

"I went out there and said 'if you're going to be arresting anyone for sharing cannabis seeds it's going to be me,'" he said. "So, I gave him a handful of seeds and the officer arrested me as well."

Insp. Mike Bossley said police were initially on scene to "keep the peace and protect the public," and only arrested Larsen after he openly trafficked cannabis seeds in their presence.

"I would say we didn't have any other options," he said. "A search of the van belonging to

the event organizer resulted in the seizure of 119 grams of marijuana worth approximately \$1,190, 1,097 grams of marijuana seeds worth approximately \$30,000, and a small amount of cannabis resin and oil."

Bossley said Larsen is scheduled to appear in court May 18.

Larsen has been charged with two counts of trafficking cannabis. He said CPS told him they would be pushing for a minimum six-month jail sentence — a punishment he feels far outweighs his crime.

"It's illegal — but it's like a jaywalking ticket," he said. "The last person in Canada who was convicted of selling

marijuana seeds from his business was given a \$500 fine, so giving away cannabis seeds like this — especially given the current climate — should be a pretty minimal sentence, not a six months."

But, Bossley said he wasn't aware police had told Larsen they would be pushing for the six months.

Larsen said he believes it to be a "grey area" and he's been fighting it with civil disobedience for nearly 20 years.

"I certainly live in the grey area of the law when it comes to cannabis and this is a civil disobedience campaign and it's one that is going to continue," he said.

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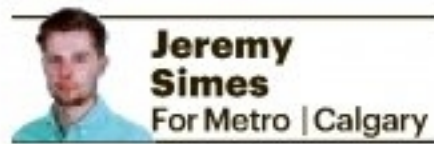
NOTLEY NIGHT IN ALBERTA

LAST NIGHT, IN A TELEVISED ADDRESS FROM HER HOME, PREMIER RACHEL NOTLEY TALKED TO ALBERTANS. NOW METRO TALKS TO A POLITICAL SCIENCE PROF AND OUR READERS ABOUT THAT SPEECH.

Premier's address a recap: MRU prof

ANALYSIS

Speech more a review than a detailed plan



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Rachel Notley's kitchen table address was a way to soften the blow that'll come when the government announces its deficit-laden budget, according to one Calgary political scientist.

During a broadcast from Notley's home Thursday evening, the premier emphasized her government won't make cuts to health care and education to balance the books, and told Albertans to look toward its April 14 budget for more details regarding job creation.

Duane Bratt, political science professor with Mount Royal University, described Notley's speech as a year-end review.

"It wasn't aimed at people who follow politics on a day-to-day basis," Bratt said. "It was a good summary of what they've done, but there was nothing new in here."

Notley said the Alberta Jobs Plan has three pillars, one being to control spending, which has begun to drop slightly since the NDP took power.

Bratt took issue with that —

Notley was referring to the rate of increase, not the total reduction in spending, he said.

The other pillar of the plan, she said, includes "supporting families and communities, investing in infrastructure, diversifying our energy markets, and supporting Alberta business."

But the premier didn't detail those components, saying Albertans will learn more when next week's budget is tabled. It's projected to be more than \$10 billion in the red.

"In our budget next week, we will be setting out more details of our five-year \$34 billion plan to build new schools, hospitals, roads and transit throughout Alberta," Notley said.

Notley reiterated the government's support to get a pipeline to tidewater, though done in a "modern" and "carefully-regulated" way, she said.

"I can promise you this: I won't let up," she said. "We must get to 'yes' on a pipeline."

As for the government's plans to support job creators in the private sector, Notley told Albertans again to look forward to the budget, but noted many of its initiatives, like injecting \$1.5 billion in capital spending to support ATB Financial's lending.

Notley again called on Ottawa to include Edmonton in its new Employment Insurance benefits plan, adding the resource is available for jobless Alberta.

METRO PANEL: Thoughts on the Premier's kitchen table address



Sylvester Ndumbi, 30,
filmmaker, Calgary

What is your overall feeling of Premier Notley's televised message?

It made me feel good. I like the new approach she has on energy. I believe the energy industry is very important to Alberta and will continue to be important for a very long time. For the government to come out and support the resources ... and to send a message that this needs to be done — I thought that was very good.

How did this message make you feel about the government's ability to steer Alberta out of the current economic downturn?

It's very easy to blame the government for all the stuff that maybe they don't really have control over.

But I believe in the new approach she demonstrated tonight.

I think if they can execute (what they say), we can maybe enter a new era where we don't depend too much on oil.

Ester Malzahn, 34,
arts administrator,
Edmonton

What is your overall feeling of Premier Notley's televised message?

I thought it was good — she clearly needed to cater her language and presentation to the opposition, which is strong right now. There was a lot of language that was fiscally focused. I appreciated the way she focused on investing in infrastructure as a way of creating jobs.

How did this message make you feel about the government's ability to steer Alberta out of the current economic downturn?

Positive. I would be interested to see how the (Progressive) Conservatives would have steered us through; I think it's a difficult situation all round.

They said, there's a 90 per cent oil royalty drop in this budget, which is huge.

From my perspective, to invest in infrastructure is smart.



Zach Laing, 20,
student, Calgary

What is your overall feeling of Premier Notley's televised message?

I thought that it was a little bit long-winded, but it didn't surprise me.

I think that she wanted to come out and show everybody in the province that she might not be as bad as everybody makes her out to be.

I think it's too early to make up our minds, with only the new government being here

for a year. by the time we get to year three or year four, we can sit back and say, 'Okay, that's good, bad, or ugly.'

How did this message make you feel about the government's ability to steer Alberta out of the current economic downturn?

I think it made me feel confident. After hearing what she had to say. It's too early to tell. I like what she said. It made a lot of sense.

I guess we'll have to wait and see.



“It was a good summary of what they've done, but there was nothing new in here. Duane Bratt

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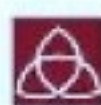


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Albertans would elect minority: Poll

PROVINCIAL POLITICS

It would be a 'close race' if election held today: Survey

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

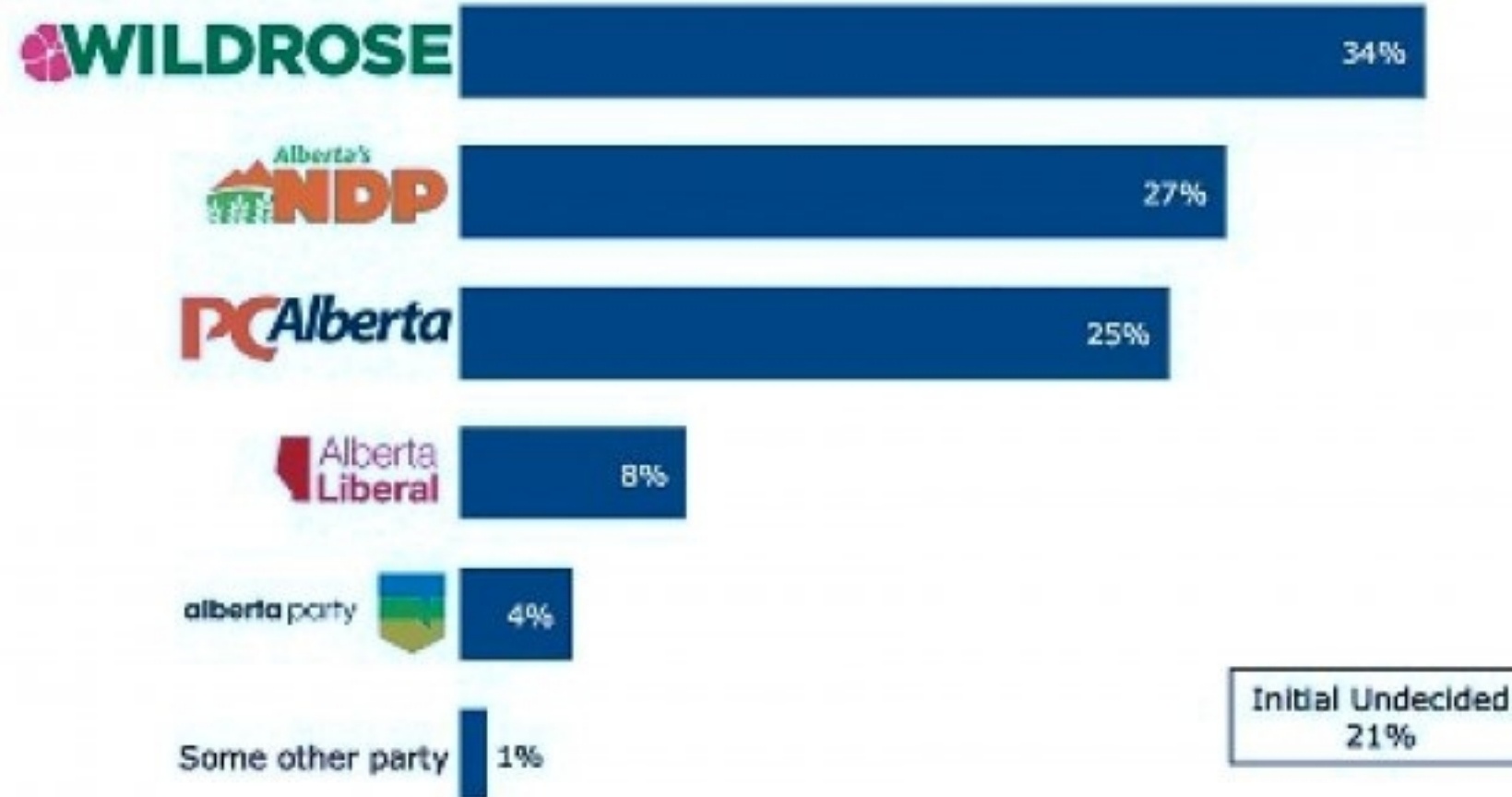
The Alberta NDP would lose its majority government if an election were held today, according to an exclusive ThinkHQ/Metro poll.

In fact, ThinkHQ president Marc Henry said it looks like Alberta would wind up with either an NDP or Wildrose minority, though the Progressive Conservatives are polling strong, especially in Calgary.

Of decided voters, 34 per cent said they would vote for the Wildrose, 27 per cent for the NDP and 25 per cent for the PCs, according to the poll. Twenty-one per cent of respondents said they were undecided.

The online panel surveyed 1331 Albertans on a variety of political issues in Alberta.

"It looks like it's a pretty



Rachel Notley's majority government would be in jeopardy if an election were held today. METRO FILE

close race," Henry said.

But the numbers paint a more fragmented picture when you break them down by region, Henry added.

According to the poll, 30 per cent of decided voters in Calgary would cast their ballots for the PCs, 27 per cent

for the Wildrose and 24 per cent for the NDP.

But the orange crush remain strong in Edmonton — 44 per cent of decided voters in the capital region said they would vote for the governing party. Twenty-one per cent of Edmonton voters said they would vote

for the PCs and 18 per cent for the Wildrose.

Lori Williams, political science professor at Mount Royal University, said the NDP's strength in Edmonton isn't particularly surprising, but was surprised to see PC strength in Calgary.

"Given the Calgary-Greenway byelection, this sort of mirrors the results that we saw," she said.

"What's interesting to me though is the PCs are holding some strength, even with a relatively weak leader. It seems to clearly indicate there's a

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significant appetite for an alternative on the centre right and, that for many Albertans, the Wildrose are too far to the right."

To no surprise of Williams, the Wildrose is excelling in rural and small urban Alberta with 56 and 44 per cent, respectively.

In those regions, the NDP poll at 16 and 24 per cent, respectively, while the PCs are at 25 and 22 per cent.

This online survey utilized a representative, but non-random sample, therefore the margin of error is not applicable. However, a probability sample of this size would yield a margin of error of +/- 2.7 percentage points at 19 times out of 20.

Results were weighted to reflect gender, age and region of Alberta population according to Statistics Canada.

The poll was conducted from March 11 to 16.

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Police tape off the 9700 block of Harvest Hills Link NE after a body was discovered in the adjacent alleyway. KENNETH APPLEBY/METRO

Body discovered after 'squabbling'

INVESTIGATION

Early morning altercation overheard in alleyway



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Tanya Becker awoke early Tuesday in her Harvest Hills home to the sounds of men "squabbling," in her back alley.

"I woke up about 2:30 last night and I just heard two men squabbling back and forth and then I heard what sounded like a heavier vehicle take off down the alley," she said.

"When I lifted my blinds up I couldn't see anything and

I heard what sounded like a heavier vehicle take off.

Tanya Becker, resident

everything was really quiet—I noticed my next door neighbour's 17-year-old son standing out on his deck so he obviously heard something too."

Insp. Don Coleman said police were called to the 9700 block of Harvest Hills Link NE, around 8:30 a.m. Thursday, after receiving reports of a body in the alleyway.

"The death is considered suspicious and an autopsy is pending," he said. "As it is in the early stages of the investigation there

is limited information."

Becker said after she heard the altercation she went back to sleep, and went about her business as usual Thursday morning.

"I left for work this morning because I didn't think to check or go outside," she said. "I just got up like I normally do and took off."

Coleman said there are currently no suspects or vehicle descriptions.

The body of what appeared to be a male victim was in the alleyway, with what looked like blood spattered on the ground next to it.

Becker, who has lived on the street for 16 years, said she returned home to give a statement after hearing the news of the body.

She said she has "no clue at all" who the victim could be.

CRIME

Police warn Calgarians as high-risk sex offender is released

Police are warning Calgarians after the release of a high-risk offender.

On Thursday, Alexander Bathgate, 48, of Calgary was released into the community after serving two years for sexual interference with a minor in Medicine Hat.

Bathgate's previous convictions include sexual assault, assault, possession of drugs, robbery, theft and several breaches of previous court orders. He committed most of these crimes in B.C., Ontario and Edmonton.

Police will be monitoring

Bathgate as part of the High Risk Offender Program.

He's described as Caucasian, five-foot-nine, and 160 pounds. He has grey hair and brown eyes. He has a few distinct tattoos, including a demon face and flames on his chest and a woman's face and a stack of skulls on his shoulders.

Police said Bathgate sometimes uses the alias Alex Wisla.

Police also said members of the public should "take suitable precautionary measures" and not "embark on any form of vigilante action."

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Alexander Bathgate
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Plan to disband watchdog criticized

OILSANDS

Scientists poke holes in report of infighting, overspending

Prominent scientists are warning Alberta's environment minister that disbanding an arm's-length body that monitors the environmental impact of the

oilsands is a mistake.

"Minister (Shannon) Phillips believes that there is public trust in government science," says a letter signed by 10 A-list researchers.

"It is our experience in dealing with the public that this is not the case."

Signatories include scientists whose work originally exposed how poorly Alberta was tracking the environmental impacts of industry, especially the oil-

sands, as well as some who examined those monitoring methods. They include ecologist David Schindler of the University of Alberta, biologist John Smol from Queen's and geologist Andrew Miall of the University of Toronto.

On Tuesday, Phillips announced that the Alberta Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Agency would be folded up and its work brought back within gov-

ernment. Citing a consultant's study, Phillips said the agency was overspending, split by bureaucratic infighting and dividing Alberta's scarce scientific resources.

She also said environmental monitoring is a core function of government not unlike public health or safety.

The letter from scientists says the consultant's report was full of errors. For one, salaries at the agency were not

inflated, it says.

"A simple check with three scientists at AEMERA shows that they are paid the same or less than other civil servants of equivalent rank."

A recent peer review of the oilsands component of the agency's work gave it a solid "B" grade for dramatic improvements in research on how oilsands development affects the environment.

Most dangerous is mov-

ing the research back under the wing of government, said Schindler.

"The minister is naive," he said. "She will not be the only minister in charge of this monitoring program, and this is a program that has to have many decades of integrity to be valuable." Alberta Environment was considering the letter and not immediately available for comment.

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Nafee Rashid used a crowdfunding campaign to buy 25 computers to be given to Syrian refugees. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

SYRIAN REFUGEES

Volunteer's push nets 25 computers



Lucie Edwards
Metro | Calgary

Twenty-five Syrian refugees are connected and ready for job hunting, keeping in touch with family and working on homework thanks to a generous Calgary woman.

Nafee Rashid, 23, a volunteer with the Syrian Refugee Support Group Calgary (SRSG) said that back in December she and her friend Alana Jensen were trying to think of a way they could have a significant impact on the newcomers.

"We decided we wanted to collect computers but we didn't know how exactly to do that," she said. "We decided to start crowdfunding because through that avenue we can reach the most people."

Rashid said they set an initial goal of raising \$2,500, and once they'd reached their goal they began reaching out to their friends to see how they could get the best bang for their buck.

"I know people who work with computers and I was just asking them what I should do and one friend who used to work for Mobile Depot in Sunridge said he'd ask them if there was any way they could help," she said.

Thankfully, Rashid said Mobile Depot said they could help

by selling them refurbished computers at a discounted price.

"They ended up giving us 15 computers and Alana was able to get another 10 refurbished computers through her connections — so we got a total of 25 computers with our crowd-funded money," she said.

Rashid said the computers have pre-installed Skype and Microsoft. She hopes they will help those who received them start their new lives. "You can do so much with computers — looking for jobs, houses — anything," she said. "It's such a good feeling because I know they will be such a great tool to all the newcomers to use it."

Ali Ahamdo's family received one of Rashid and Jensen's donated computers. He said it will be a huge help to them.

"This is absolutely wonderful. It helps me so much with English and in sharing information, and helps my kids with entertainment, too," he said.

"I want to thank Nafee and everyone else in the Syrian Refugee Support Group who helped me get this much needed computer"

With 11 days left on their LaunchGood crowd funding page, Rashid said they're hoping for more donations to buy more computers.

For more information on the SRSG visit: yycsyr.ca



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But for a live-saving honk

TRAFFIC

Mother thanks bus driver who warned her of coming vehicle

Stephanie Joe
For Metro | Calgary

A close call in the streets left a Calgary mom sleepless, so instead of catching more shut-eye she made a call to say thanks.

Kerry Urban was out biking with her kids Tuesday when she approached a crosswalk at Heritage Drive and 5th Street S.W. Her oldest child and a friend safely crossed, so she got off her bike to join them on the other side, she said.

A bus stopped to let her cross, but the driver on the inside lane wasn't stopping, so the bus driver tapped his horn to warn Urban. She continued to walk onto the street, with her daughter in tow, and that's when the Calgary transit driver laid into his horn.

"I stopped at the edge of the bus as the car screeched to a

halt right in front of me," said Urban. "I could see the driver's face; we were close."

Urban said that she proceeded to cross the street, but the magnitude of the situation didn't hit her until later.

"I was thinking of it when I went to sleep Tuesday night and I couldn't get to sleep. I wanted to say thank you (to the bus driver)," said Urban.

Urban doesn't blame the car driver for what happened but hopes this incident will lead to drivers taking greater care.

"There was a lot of good things that happened," she said. "I think that if people keep safe, we can cover for each other when that one person isn't, because we've all been that person."

Mark Boody, the 21-year veteran driver for Calgary Transit who warned Urban, said he sees that inattentiveness regularly.

"To be honest, crosswalks can be tricky for drivers when there's a bus around," he said. "It's still the car driver's responsibility."

Urban and her children personally thanked Boody at the intersection on Thursday.



From left: Carter, 11, Drew, 8, Poppy, 4, and Kerry Urban thank Mark Boody at the crosswalk where Urban and her daughter were nearly struck by a car. STEPHANIE JOE/FOR METRO

COURTS

New trial for women convicted in killing

The Alberta Court of Appeal has ordered a new trial for a southern Alberta woman who was convicted in the stabbing death of a man in his trailer.

Connie Oakes of Medicine Hat was found guilty in 2013 of second-degree murder after testimony from a co-accused who pleaded guilty.

Wendy Scott, who has a limited IQ, later retracted her testimony and has been granted a new trial.

Casey Armstrong was found stabbed through the neck in the bathtub of his Medicine Hat home in May 2011.

The court didn't grant Oakes the outright acquittal she had been seeking.

But the Appeal Court ruled in a 2-1 decision that it would be unfair to deny Oakes a new trial since her co-accused has already been granted one.

Dates for a new trial still need to be set.

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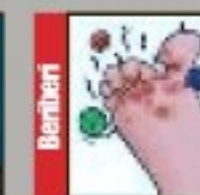
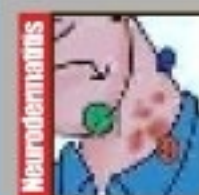
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Alberta's busiest hospitals are seeing some wait time relief.
METRO FILE PHOTO

Hospitals are seeing shorter wait times

EMERGENCY ROOMS

Times down by six minutes, despite more patient visits

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

As Alberta's hospitals continue to see patient volume increases, overall wait times to see doctors at the province's busiest emergency rooms have slightly declined.

According to Alberta Health Services' (AHS) recently released performance measures report, Albertans waited 1.3 hours to see a physician at one of the province's busiest emergency facilities during its third quarter, down by six minutes from 1.4 hours during the third quarter of last year. The benchmark is

1.2 hours.

Dr. Ted Braun, acting vice-president and medical director for central and southern Alberta, said the AHS has worked to streamline its processes and improve the flow of patients at its emergency departments, while opening continuing care beds and creating rapid transfer units within urban hospitals to free up space.

"Given that there are literally hundreds of thousands of patients seen in our emergency department each year, to improve the experience of on average decreasing their wait time by six minutes doesn't sound like very much," he said.

"But in terms of improving that experience, we feel that (de-

crease) is important and represents considerable effort on the part of our staff and physicians."

The average patient's length of time in the emergency department before being admitted to a hospital bed has also decreased.

In the third quarter of 2015-16, patients waited an average of 9.2 hours in the emergency department before being admitted to a hospital bed, down 42 minutes from 9.9 hours during Q3 of 2014-15. The benchmark is 8.2 hours.

However, admitted patients at Calgary's South Health Campus saw a wait time of 11.1 hours before being admitted to a hospital bed, an increase of 54 minutes from 10.2 hours last year.

Braun said South Health Campus has fewer beds than other hospitals, though there's no single driver for increased wait times for admitted wait times.

"At many points our facilities are operating at or near 100 per cent capacity, so there are many factors that influence that," he said. "I think the important thing to remember is that these are wait times for people who've been seen, assessed by a physician, had a diagnosis and treatment has been initiated. These patients continue to receive care in the emergency department."

Associate Health Minister Brandy Payne said the government is pleased to see the improved outcomes.

11.1

How many hours patients at Calgary's South Health Campus have to wait before being admitted to a hospital bed.

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Audrey Smith, of New Urban Farm Partnerships (NUFP), believes the city could do more to attract urban farmers.
HELEN PIKE/METRO

A growing possibility

URBAN FARMING

Documentary focuses on a new culture in agriculture



Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Sure, you garden in your backyard, neighbourhood, and balcony. But what about the city's backyard?

There's a growing culture in Calgary hoping to get farmers working closer to the core and planting in the city's under-utilized spots.

A documentary produced by New Urban Farm Partnerships (NUFP) tells this story through the city's current urban agriculture realm.

The film takes a holistic look at what's sprouting in the city, and expands that to show what could be.

"There are a lot of people, councillors included, who really don't know what's happening in the urban farming sector in our city, so in the absence of knowing, they can sometimes make judgements," said Audrey Smith, a member of NUFP.

"We wanted to show this is what urban farming is like in Calgary, and this is what it

could be."

Filmmaker Kai Cabodyna aka "Wabi Sabi Libra" spent his summer filming, and then editing, what was supposed to be a short documentary – and quickly grew to be feature length.

Cabodyna said the film had a lot of calls for action, and said councillors seemed receptive to try and elevate the agricultural systems.

Cabodyna is also a part of the local food movement himself, having co-founded Leaf Ninjas, a company that helps build sustainable food gardens and teaches people how to design better food-scapes.



Gardening is great, but farming is an employment sector

Audrey Smith

Smith said her group is interested in partnerships that would give access to public land currently not available to farmers.

"Gardening is great, but farming is an employment sector," Smith said. "Part of what the film addresses is the ways that other cities are doing that."

The documentary is free online, and features Druh Farrell, Gian-Carlo Carra and Evan Woolley along with members of the urban farming community.

+ LEARN MORE

To learn more visit New Urban Farm Partnerships on their Facebook Page or <http://www.nufp.ca/>

POLITICS

Council eyes laxer food growing bylaws

The City of Calgary is looking at ways to simplify its land use bylaws when it comes to food growing, processing and distribution.

Currently the process is in the engagement stages – in spring and summer any proposed changes will come to council for a final say.

Laurie Kimber, city-wide planner with the City of Calgary said it's all about aligning with the CalgaryEATS action plan – a document he called "aspirational."

"We're just looking at our rules to make sure they communicate well to people what opportunities there are out there, and also look at making sure we have as many opportunities in Calgary to grow food as possible," Kimber said.

"That goes for all types of growing; so growing for businesses, industry as well as individuals – which might be more like gardening – but still growing food. We're looking at the

full range."

The CalgaryEATS policy was brought forward in 2012 and Kimber said it's taken some time to collect a team of people and resources to address the issues with the structure and approach. This is the formal launch by the City of Calgary to gather stakeholder feedback for a report to council.

Coun. Druh Farrell said the rules currently in place can act as an impediment to those look-

ing to get sprouting.

"For no good reason we had rules in our land use bylaw that prevented the ability to use vacant land to grow food, so it's a fairly simple endeavour simply to get out of the way, or create more enabling legislations, so that we welcome food growing in communities," said Farrell. "Vacant lots are never the best use of land...they rarely contribute to a community."

HELEN PIKE/METRO

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Collin Cubido, Kristen Cote and Charles Nokes are all members of the AlbertaSat team.

KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Student scientists rocket to the stars

TECHNOLOGY

New paper says program may outsize Alberta space industry



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

In a basement lab, a group of student scientists are putting their satellite through the ringer — repeatedly heating it up to 50 C before plunging it back down to -20 C — to prove it can withstand the rigours of space.

But if it's taking a bit longer than expected it's probably because it's the first satellite to be designed and built in Alberta, one exclusively built by students from the AlbertaSat project to boot.

"We thought we had a pretty good idea of how long it would take, but it turns out we were a bit off," said project manager Charles Nokes, about to graduate with a degree in engineer-

ing physics.

The temperature one is just one test the basketball-sized satellite will undergo before launching off the International Space Station this summer.

If all goes well the satellite will measure weather in space for about a year before disintegrating.

It will be a major achievement for the AlbertaSat project, but also for a little known undergraduate program that some say is giving the University an edge in the Canadian space industry.

A new paper in Physics in Canada sets out the success of the Canada/Norway Student Sounding Rocket Program (or CaNoRock) in numbers: 105 so far have participated by going to Norway for a week to learn about rockets.

Of those, 20 per cent have applied to work in the aerospace industry and 57 per cent have applied to grad programs.

"CaNoRock is perfectly suited to help Alberta tap into the aerospace and defence sector for economic diversification and



I think we're seeing a resurgence in the smarter way to do space.

Kristen Cote

growth," said the paper's lead author and physics PhD candidate David Miles.

Astrophysics student Kristen Cote completed the program last year, and she met people from the AlbertaSat project, got involved — and discovered a whole new industry.

"I think we're seeing a resurgence in the smarter way to do space. It used to be more about these big rockets," she said.

Most of the people working on the new satellite have a CaNoRock connection, which Cote says got a lot of people hooked.

"It's a week-long crash course in rockets and if that doesn't sound cool enough, then I don't know what does."



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MS Outlook 2010	12	Saturday (9:00am-3:00 pm) June 18 and 25	\$120
MS PowerPoint 2010	12	Tuesday and Thursday (6:00pm-9:00pm) June 14, 16, 21 and 23	\$120
Integral Training (6-class package) - Introduction to Computer - Windows 7, Internet & Email - MS Office: Word, Excel, Outlook & PowerPoint	75	Option 1: Monday to Friday (6:00pm - 9:00pm) From July 4 until August 9 Option 2: Saturday (9:00am - 3:00pm) From July 9 until October 22	\$480

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Dead woman's daughter asks for help

LETHBRIDGE

Stabbing case still unsolved, police hoping for leads

The daughter of a 78-year-old woman stabbed to death in her home in southern Alberta is pleading with the public for

help in solving the crime.

Lisa Freihaut tearfully told reporters in Calgary on Thursday that she has been sad, angry and frustrated over the "senseless" death of her mother earlier this year.

Irene Carter was found slain in her Lethbridge home on Jan. 17.

Police have said family members went to check on the senior when they couldn't

reach her.

Lethbridge police Sgt. Ryan Stef says investigators don't have a motive for the killing.

He says officers are running out of leads and want to talk to any businesses or sales people who may have been going door-to-door in the area.

"At this point, we have not ruled out anything," Stef said Thursday.

"Could it have been a robbery? Could it have been a theft of some sort? That's a possibility."

Freihaut added that she will miss being able to send a Mother's Day card and flowers this year.

"My mom loved her family and friends, especially her grandchildren. They were her pride and joy," she said, crying.

"No family deserves to have



If you have any information about what happened to my mom, please contact the Lethbridge Police Service, so they can put my mom to rest peacefully and we can start to heal. Lisa Freihaut

to go through this ... If you have any information about what happened to my mom, please contact the Lethbridge

Police Service, so they can put my mom to rest peacefully and we can start to heal."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HOUSING

Habitat for Humanity homes break ground

Kenneth Appleby
For Metro | Calgary

In 12 months a Calgary family will move into one of the new homes in Redstone to be built by Habitat for Humanity.

Jeffrey and Suzanne Dumlao and their children are excited.

"This is a dream come true for us. Like I said we tried going through the normal banks, and there was no way we could afford this," said Jeffrey Dumlao.

A ground-breaking ceremony Thursday marked the start of construction.

The homes are designed to be accessible for children who are suffering from developmental disabilities. The Dumlaos' oldest daughter, Autumn-Lilly, 12, has chromosome 7Q, which has left her in a wheelchair.

As well as being in a wheelchair, their eldest daughter

can't speak and has other underlying issues.

"Right now we have to lug her up and down the stairs because the second floor is where her room is," said Dumlao.

The house will have a room on the main floor for Autumn-Lilly, and three rooms upstairs.

A wet room on the main floor will make it possible to bring a wheelchair into a shower.

The other four children will share two rooms and Jeffery and Suzanne will finally get a master bedroom to themselves.

"Me and Jeff will have the master room with a walk-in closet," said Suzanne Dumlao.

The family found out that they qualified for the house two and a half years ago.

"It's a little longer than most, but I'm glad we waited for this one," said Jeffrey Dumlao. "It's a little bigger and it's great for Autumn."



In 12 months the Dumlaos will be taking ownership of their new, accessible home. KENNETH APPLEBY/METRO

BOW VALLEY COLLEGE

Online job skills offered

A new initiative aims to give new Canadians a jump-start at a job before they even arrive.

SmartPathways is a mentorship program launched April 7 at Bow Valley College, developed in partnership with the Calgary Region Immigrant Employment Council, Colleges and Institutes Canada.

It's an online program designed to help immigrant professionals understand the job climate before they arrive.

SmartPathways offers professionals 15-20 hours of online training, a job skills toolkit to help with resumé building, cover letters and job interviews.

Immigrant professionals will also have two real-time connections with a career coach and three to four Skype calls with a Calgary mentor.

SmartPaths will be accepting candidates in early May 2016. Bow Valley College is currently looking for online mentors. METRO

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Taking photos to the extreme

SCENE YYC

Death-defying photographer Carsten Peter shares stories



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

At 17, photographer Carsten Peter had his first opportunity to go inside an active volcano.

The air was cold, but the ground was warm as Peter and his friend lay on their sides, waiting for the big moment.

"We did a foolish thing," laughed Peter. "We had no clue. We just went to the crater and waited for the next eruption without observing the volcano before."

Suddenly the ground swelled and shook. The volcano blew its lid — hot liquid exploding like bombs overhead while Peter and his friend ran for safety.



Extreme environment photographer Carsten Peter will be sharing his volcano diving and tornado chasing assignments in Calgary next week. COURTESY CARSTEN PETER

It was later they realized, in the heat of the moment, neither one of them actually triggered their cameras.

But still, Peter, who will be sharing his adventures at Calgary's Arts Commons

next week, was hooked.

"As a photographer, you love to get close to what's happening," he said. "That was the reason I descended into volcanoes."

Peter would eventually

become a photographer with National Geographic magazine, often placing himself within extreme environment conditions — often barely escaping with his life, and a photo for print.

"We just went to the crater and waited for the next eruption without observing the volcano before."

Carsten Peter, on his first assignment

Once Peter was exploring caves when a portion of the cavern came down on him. He fell a few metres and the rocks just barely missed his body — only crushing his foot. The bones crunched and broke, and Peter was forced to hobble out of the cave and back down the mountain.

Peter said that in his career now, he takes many more safety precautions than he used to. In his youth, Peter laughed that he made quite a few stupid decisions.

For instance, he was part of a crew taking pictures while paragliding. Just before his takeoff, wind conditions

took a turn for the worse. But Peter figured, with enough of a running start, he might just make it.

He was wrong.

Peter's glider began to plummet down. He tried to hook his hand on the mountain wall, missed, but managed to reorient himself — only to find he was heading straight towards another wall of the mountain, with no way of turning himself.

"I threw up my legs and pushed completely into the wall," he recalled. "It was a serious hit, but somehow, in a turning motion, I managed to hold myself on the wall."

Peter then climbed to the top of the mountain, and to relative safety.

+ CHECK IT OUT

The extreme photographer will be at Arts Commons on April 10 and 11, sharing photos and stories about volcanoes, cave diving and tornado chasing.

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William Shatner reflects on Star Trek's 50th anniversary ahead of his visit Calgary. COURTESY CALGARY EXPO

Shatner beams into Comic Expo

SCENE YYC

Star Trek's original hero talks about the future's past



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Celebrating 50 years of Star Trek, the Captain Kirk himself, William Shatner will be greeting fans at the Calgary Comic Expo on April 28 to May 1.

Why has Star Trek has such a lasting appeal?

Quantum physics has shown us a world that is beyond our imagination and people are fascinated and astounded and in awe of this science world that has no explanation. You have to sort of go on faith as to what this reality is. In the same way religious texts tell you what the faith is — so you believe in that god, if that's what you believe in. So, science fiction writers, out of their imagination, say this is our explanation for this bizarre world, and come to it with all that awe and wonderment. That's what Star Trek did.

What is it about sci-fi that

allows writers to touch on complex topics like racism?

There was one wonderful story in Star Trek, that was such a turn of the imagination I've never forgotten it. A guy who is half black on one side, and half white on the other, meets a guy who is white on the other side and black on the other. They hate each other, because they're nothing like each other, although each is painted black and white. It's science fiction, but there's a kernel of truth there about how absurd racism is.

Star Trek didn't have the biggest budget — often reusing music and effects shots — but do you think modern movies have sacrificed plot for special effects?

The movies I was in with Star Trek never made more than \$100-million dollars. But J.J.'s movies make hundreds of millions more because he offers a ride in these extraordinary visual effects. What you forfeit is the complex story, but people aren't paying to see a complex story, they're paying to see a ride.

Have you seen the J.J. Abram's new Star Wars yet? I haven't seen it, but I've been told it's wonderful, and I'm going to see it momentarily.

WEEKEND EVENTS

FRIDAY —

KO Arts Centre Fundraiser

Calgary artists Katie Ohe and Harry Kiyooka are fundraising to turn their Springbank home into an arts centre. The fundraiser at Hotel Arts will include more than 70 works being sold at auction.

For more information visit koartscentre.org.

SATURDAY —

Guitarist Ekachai Jearakul

Classical guitarist Ekachai Jearakul became the first Asian guitarist to win the Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition. He's doing a 50 concert tour in different countries.

For more information visit classicalguitarsocietyofcalgary.com.

SATURDAY —

Garden Show

The annual Horticultural Society Garden Show takes place at Spruce Meadows, with more than 150 exhibitors, speaker sessions and gardening and cooking demonstrations.

For more information, visit calhort.org.

SUNDAY —

Calgary Music Collectors Show

The Calgary Music Collectors Show gives eager vinyl enthusiasts and collectors first crack at vendor offerings, to find rare and vintage music and related memorabilia. Vendors include some prolific private collectors.

For more information visit toonorthrecords.com.

AARON CHATHA/METRO

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Innovative connections

TECHNOLOGY

Startup hopes to break down barriers between users



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Calgarian Steve Liang doesn't like that Xbox One gamers can't connect with players on the PS4. Or that Android and iPhone devices can't share apps, or that Wi-Fi lightbulbs from different companies can't communicate with each other.

Liang said that on the internet today, companies have locked in their products like silos — you can only use their cloud, their network, with their machines.

"It's really hindered innovation," he said. "This is evil. It's a bad thing."

Liang and his company SensorUp are developing a standard of programming code which will allow different products to connect



Steve Liang works on a sensor — one of many around the office, which he hopes will one day connect different products, like an iPhone and an Android. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

with each other, regardless of manufacturer. It means consumers won't be trapped and forced to only buy products from a single company.

"We want to reduce the barriers between the silos,"

he said. "That's our vision."

Liang's work is connected to a concept called the Internet of Things. The idea is that, one day, everything will be connected to the internet, and able to work in conjunction

with each other.

Liang said a vase could connect online to detect water levels for flowers and plants, and also work with your thermostat to adjust the temperature in the room.

“

It's really hindered innovation. This is evil. It's a bad thing.

Steve Liang

SensorUp has worked with defence contractors, biodiversity monitoring institutes and even the U.S. Department of Homeland Defence. They've spent years working with world organizations to develop an international standard for online products.

But he said just having a paper document won't be enough.

"It's two parts," he explained. "One is the standard, with a good scientific foundation to make sure it theoretically works."

"Second is our company, which implements the code, so realistically, everything works."

SensorUp has been working on that code for more than a year, and hope to one day break down barriers between products from different companies.

CHARITY

Scotiabank gives \$250k to YMCA

YMCA Calgary received a generous donation from a national bank to improve the lives of children.

On April 7, Scotiabank unveiled a \$250,000 donation to the YMCA Calgary, South Health Campus, which created an outdoor sports pad for local children.

To celebrate the opening of the sports pad, hometown Olympic medalists Cassie Campbell and Kelly Bechard hosted the inaugural hockey game on the sports pad. Kids and youth from the YMCA, who will benefit from the new outdoor multi-use facility, joined the Olympians.

The South Health Campus YMCA, Alberta Health Services and Calgary Health Trust will share the sports pad.

"Scotiabank's donation will have a lasting impact to our members and our community," said Helene Weir, president and CEO of YMCA Calgary. "The sport pad will allow the young people in our programs to stay active and learn essential life skills about teamwork and camaraderie." METRO

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Not quite Bride of Frankenstein

UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL

Watch women sewn together seek revenge in Patchwork



Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Calgary-born Tyler MacIntyre's first feature film, *Patchwork*, embodies the title as earnestly as possible.

The movie, which appears at the Calgary Underground Film Festival (CUFF), follows three women who, after a night of partying, wake up to find themselves stitched into one body.

The body is composed of different parts from the three girls — one eye is blue, one is brown, the lips are from the third girl and there are a few different types of hair on her head.

The patchwork creature they've become heads out on



Tyler MacIntyre's *Patchwork* is a revenge story of three women stitched together into a monstrosity. COURTESY TYLER MACINTYRE

a mission of revenge against the person who did it.

"But it's really hilarious," said MacIntyre. "It's kind of off-beat humour. It's a little weird at parts, but people seem to like it."

MacIntyre said the audience gets a peek into the creature's head, where the movie becomes a little like Pixar's *Inside Out*. Inside, the three girls talk with each other; but on the outside, it's just the creature mumbling.

The movie is a perfect fit for CUFF, likely because it doesn't

seem to fit anywhere else.

"The mandate is just to focus on films that defy genre conventions," said CUFF programmer Cameron Macgowan.

Macgowan's own short film will also be screening at CUFF. *Luxure* is an erotic fable about man's obsession with exotic beauty, described as a social satire by Macgowan.

Luxure screens April 14, and *Patchwork* screens April 16 at midnight at the Globe Theatre.

For more information, visit calgaryundergroundfilm.org.

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Chief fights PTSD stigma

FIRST RESPONDERS

Blais wants mental-health infrastructure to be a priority

On Nov. 8, 2008, Jean-Michel Blais stood in front of a collapsed primary school in Haiti, watching as 93 bodies, most of them children, stacked up in front of him.

The United Nations police team bore through the rubble in search of survivors and found a girl trapped between the bodies of two other children. As deputy commissioner of the UN mission, it was Blais who gave the order to cut one of the bodies in half to pull the surviving girl out safely.

More than to serve and protect, Blais says, police work is about confronting the problems that people would not, should not and could not deal with.

But sometimes, he can't either.

Blais, who became Halifax Regional Police Chief in 2012, recently revealed he has post-



Halifax Regional Police Chief Jean-Michel Blais was diagnosed with PTSD in January 2012 after several trips to Haiti as a member of the RCMP. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

traumatic stress disorder.

It has become a hallmark of his leadership atop the Halifax force, where he has made officers' mental health a priority.

By next month, every Halifax officer will complete a half-day Road to Mental Readiness workshop.

“Officers have to realize that they have to take care of themselves.”

Chief Jean-Michel Blais

“Day in, day out, these officers have to show up at the doors and deal with the challenges that are there,” Blais said in a recent talk at Mount Saint Vincent University. “Spat upon. Shot at. Cut. Yelled at.... You think that doesn't leave them with a lasting stress?”

Blais wants to start a discussion about mental illness within the force. “(Officers) have to realize that they have to take care of themselves before they can take care of others,” Blais said in an interview.

When he talks publicly about his PTSD, Blais makes a point of wearing his uniform to show that mental illness can happen to anyone. The symbolism is not without controversy.

“There have been some questions, I think fair questions, about (my) ability to lead,” Blais said. “I don't know a good leader who hasn't gone through particular challenges and hasn't come out better for it.”

About eight per cent of police officers have PTSD, according to Tema Conter Memorial Trust, which supports first responders.

Since 2014, the organization reports, 31 Canadian police officers have committed suicide, including a member of Calgary's service last week.

“Most people experience trauma once in their lives,” trust director Vince Savoia said.

“Police experience it multiple times a day.”

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MILITARY

Base security to get a review

The House of Commons defence committee will hold closed-door hearings on the state of security at Canadian military bases.

Conservative MP James Bezan, the party's defence critic, proposed the idea, which was recently accepted by the all-party committee, although a date for the investigation has yet to be scheduled.

In the aftermath of a stabbing of two military members at a north Toronto recruiting facility last month, National Defence conceded that some elements of a full-scale security review at its installations were still ongoing 18 months after the terror attacks of October 2014.

Bezan says it's been clear since the 2014 deaths of Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent and Cpl. Nathan Cirillo — attacks inspired by Daesh — that members of the Canadian military need better protection.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TPP would 'dilute' Canada's position

TRADE

Deal will swing doors to U.S. market open, note cautions

On the day Canada agreed to the controversial Trans-Pacific Partnership, an internal federal analysis warned the deal threat-

ened to water down the country's powerful business position in the crucial U.S. market.

But staying out of the treaty — if it's ratified — could be even worse, the memo said.

The October briefing note, prepared for then-finance minister Joe Oliver, framed Canada's participation in the 12-country Pacific Rim pact as a defensive manoeuvre, at least in part.

Joining the TPP would enable Canada to continue its participation in the North American supply chains that "underpin the economy," said the note, obtained by The Canadian Press through the Access to Information Act.

On the positive side, the "secret" document also noted the pact would expand Canadian trade opportunities in Asian countries and ensure

a level playing field with U.S. exporters.

Closer to home, however, the agreement would swing open the doors to the crucial American market, it warned.

"Canadian businesses will also face intensified competition as nine more countries will essentially enter the 'NAFTA tent' and dilute Canada's privileged position in the U.S. market," said the document.

Canada signed the treaty in February, but International Trade Minister Chrystia Freeland described the move at the time as a "technical step" that didn't necessarily signal it was a done deal.

Freeland has vowed that only a vote in Parliament would ratify the agreement, which was negotiated under the former Conservative government.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ 'FLAWED'

Last week, Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz urged Canada to abandon what he described as a "badly flawed" deal that could hamper efforts to rebuild aboriginal relations and fight climate change.

PLASTICS

Tofino businesses have had last straw

Some businesses in an ocean-side town on Vancouver Island are eliminating plastic drinking straws, taking a first slug against plastic waste.

Businesses in Tofino have been asked to stop routinely handing out straws and to provide biodegradable options on request, said Michelle Hall, co-chair of a non-profit group that's spearheading the campaign.

"They're really quite useless, we can say goodbye to straws," said Hall, who is with the Pacific Rim chapter of the Surfrider Foundation. "I just wanted to

start with something that was way more achievable."

All but eight of 30 businesses have agreed to go straw-free as part of the Straws Suck campaign launched in early March, said Hall. Straws are one of the top 10 pieces of trash gathered in beach cleanups around the world, the foundation says.

But single-use plastics, which include straws, accumulate in much greater volumes. At least 20 million tonnes of plastic litter enters the ocean every year, disintegrating as a result of sand and sun. THE CANADIAN PRESS



ONE MAN'S TRASH ... SCIENTISTS TURN TIRES INTO MOSQUITO TRAPS The bottom half of an "ovillanta," a mosquito trap made out of repurposed used tires, is shown in this undated handout photo. A Canadian-led research team has repurposed waste that promotes the spread of mosquitoes and turned it into a potential weapon against the disease-carrying insects. The scientists have taken the tires, an ideal breeding ground for the insects, and made traps for their eggs. "What we are aiming at is destroying the second generation of mosquitoes, by destroying the eggs and the larvae," said Gerardo Ulibarri, a professor of biochemistry at Laurentian University in Sudbury, Ont. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ARGENTINA PROSECUTORS WANT PRESIDENT UNDER SCOPE Demonstrators protest against President Mauricio Macri outside the government in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on Thursday. An Argentine prosecutor has asked for an investigation into President Macri's role in offshore companies, adding to the global fallout from a massive leak of documents from a Panama law firm. The signs held by the protesters read in Spanish from left, "They said they were a team.... It turned out they were an illicit association." "Let justice weigh them with the same scales." NATACHA PISARENKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.K. leader admits tax haven profits

PANAMA PAPERS

Cameron invested thousands offshore

After four days of equivocating, British Prime Minister David Cameron issued a bombshell admission Thursday: He profited from shares he owned in a secret offshore company established by his father.

Calls for his resignation followed swiftly after the confession, which was triggered by the ongoing Panama Papers investiga-

tion by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and more than 100 media partners, including the Toronto Star.

Cameron's offshore wealth is the latest in a string of political scandals set off this week by revelations contained in the unprecedented leak of 11.5 million confidential banking and corporate records.

Executives at two major European banks have resigned and the prime minister of Iceland has been forced from office; a FIFA ethics commissioner and the president of the Chilean branch of Transparency International have stepped aside after they were named as clients of the off-

SCANDAL

So far, the scandal has brought down the leader of Iceland and raised questions about the dealings of the presidents of Argentina and Ukraine, senior Chinese

politicians, famous actors, athletes and the circle of friends of Russian Vladimir Putin, who some allege has profited indirectly from such accounts.

shore law firm behind the leak.

For Cameron, who has publicly spoken of the need to crack down on offshore tax avoidance, it was an uncomfortable acknowledgment. He admitted he held shares in an offshore firm with his wife from 1997 until they were sold for 30,000 pounds (\$55,000) in

2010, just before he became prime minister.

The firm, Blairmore Holdings, Inc., was set up by his father in the Bahamas in the early 1980s and never paid any taxes in the U.K. on its profits, according to a Guardian newspaper investigation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BRUSSELS AIRPORT

Prosecutors seek info on 'man in a hat'

Belgian prosecutors launched a public appeal Thursday seeking any information on "the man in a hat" seen before the Brussels Airport suicide bombings that killed 16 people.

Belgian Federal Prosecutor Eric Van der Sypt said authorities were especially interested in any people who might have filmed or photographed him.

The suspect was seen at the airport with two suicide bombers before they died in the March 22 attacks.

A subsequent explosion at Brussels' Maelbeek subway station killed another 16 people the same morning.

Photos released by prosecutors showed the man, who was wearing a dark hat, leaving the airport on foot, walking to the nearby town of Zaventem and then into Brussels, where all traces of him were reportedly lost.

The suspect also wore a white jacket but discarded it at some point, prosecutors said.

The appeal for public assistance more than two weeks after



The third suspect of the recent attack on Brussels airport is shown during his escape from the airport after the blasts. BELGIAN FEDERAL POLICE VIA AP

the suicide bombings indicates that investigators are at a standstill. Three bombers, two at the airport and one in the subway, also died in the attacks, which wounded 270 people and were claimed by Islamic State extremists.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Venezuela orders long weekends amid power crisis

Public employees in Venezuela will take long weekends for two months under the government's latest bid to ease a nationwide power crisis.

President Nicolas Maduro announced late Wednesday that he would sign a decree giving state workers a Friday furlough for 60 days. Together with other measures, he hopes to reduce electricity consumption by at least 20 per cent. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greek workers go on strike

Greek public sector workers

walked off the job in a 24-hour strike Thursday to protest social security and pension reforms demanded as part of Greece's third international bailout, leaving flights cancelled, schools closed and news broadcasts off the air.

Air traffic controllers joined the strike, shutting down Athens' international airport and forcing airlines to cancel flights.

State-run hospitals and the ambulance service were operating with emergency staff only, while engineers, lawyers and journalists were also on strike.

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GOP is still cool on Cruz

REPUBLICANS

Runner-up to Trump has little pull with party's core

Sen. Ted Cruz's growing success with voters isn't rubbing off on his fellow GOP senators, who remain decidedly cool to his presidential candidacy.

The Texas Republican is notorious for alienating his colleagues with tactics that have included pushing a fruitless government shutdown in 2013 and accusing the Senate majority leader of lying.

Lawmakers are now paying it back by refusing to get on board with Cruz's White House campaign even as he emerges as the likeliest alternative to businessman Donald Trump following a commanding victory Tuesday in Wisconsin.

"I just haven't heard any talk about it," responded Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch, when asked whether Republican colleagues would be gravitating



Republican presidential candidate Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, makes matzah at the Chabad Neshama Center during a campaign event Thursday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

toward Cruz.

"I will tell you that wasn't the chatter," said Sen. Dean Heller, R-Nev., after emerging from a private GOP lunch.

"I don't see any rush to judgment," added Sen. Pat Roberts of Kansas, a four-term

lawmaker.

Of Cruz's frosty relations with his colleagues, Roberts said: "I think that's obvious. That's just the way it is. But in the end result I think all of us would like to support the nominee and do the best

we can."

Cruz's campaign has asked former Texas Sen. Phil Gramm to make the case for Cruz on Capitol Hill, even though Gramm himself initially endorsed Florida Sen. Marco Rubio before Rubio dropped out.



I'm no fan of Donald Trump ... but this isn't over.

Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona

In a phone interview, Gramm said he wasn't seeking endorsements from senators but rather trying to "establish a working relationship for the future" between Cruz and Senate leaders like Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.

Cruz has dismissed McConnell as a member of the "Washington cartel" who's little better than a Democrat, but Gramm insisted that a constructive relationship will be possible.

"The most fundamental factor in putting together a working alliance with Congress for Ted Cruz is he shares their views as to what should be done," Gramm said.

"Whether his approach was right and theirs was wrong, or theirs was right and his was wrong in the past, is not a terribly relevant factor here."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TRUMP

Donald shuffles the deck

Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump is strengthening his team and refocusing on New York after tactical failures have raised doubts about his campaign operation.

The billionaire's campaign announced Thursday that veteran operative Paul Manafort would be taking on an expanded campaign role as chances of a contested party convention grow.

The move comes after Trump's loss this week in Wisconsin to rival Ted Cruz, which makes it increasingly unlikely that Trump will be able to collect the 1,237 delegates needed to win the nomination.

The addition of Manafort to Trump's team also signals a less prominent role for campaign manager Corey Lewandowski, who recently was charged with simple battery over an incident with a female reporter in Florida. "The nomination process has reached a point that requires someone familiar with the complexities involved in the final stages," Trump said in a statement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton campaigns with borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. on April 7 in the Bronx. GETTY IMAGES

U.S. POLITICS

Democratic race hitting New York

The race for the Democratic nomination took a negative turn, with front-runner Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders exchanging criticism over each other's qualifications for the presidency.

In press conferences, the rivals addressed the accusations, with Sanders vowing to fight back.

"This is not the type of politics that I wanna get in," he told journalists in Philadelphia. "But we'll get used to it fast. I'm not gonna get beat up. I'm not gonna get lied about."

Clinton, campaigning in New York City, sought to shift attention back to her Republican opponents, saying: "I will take Bernie Sanders over Donald Trump or Ted Cruz any time, so let's keep our eye over what's at stake in this election."

It was a notable shift in tone for a primary contest that has remained largely civil. As the race moves toward the New York primary on April 19, the stakes are higher for both campaigns. Sanders' recent string of victories is complicating

Clinton's efforts to march toward the general election in November.

Sanders told a crowd in Philadelphia on Wednesday that Clinton has been saying he's "not qualified to be president."

"I don't believe that she is qualified if she is, through her super PAC, taking tens of millions of dollars in special-interest funds," he said, referring to a political action committee.

Clinton earlier in the day questioned Sanders' truth-

fulness and policy expertise.

In a discussion of Sanders in an interview with the editorial board of the New York Daily News, Clinton was asked if "Bernie Sanders is qualified and ready to be president of the United States."

She responded, "Well, I think he hadn't done his homework, and he'd been talking for more than a year about doing things that he obviously hadn't really studied or understood, and that does raise a lot of questions."

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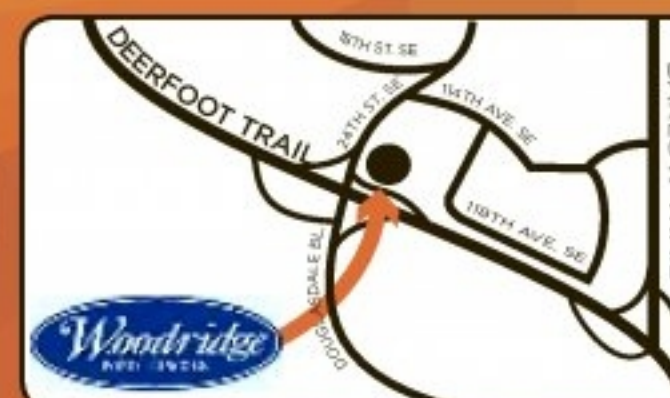
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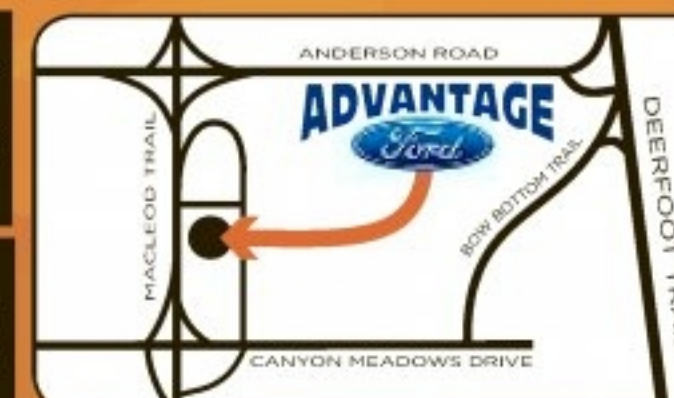


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Oilpatch in record slump

ECONOMY

Industry sees biggest-ever 2-year decline in investment

Canada's oil and gas industry is on track to see its biggest two-year capital spending decline in its seven-decade history, according to the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers.

Companies are expected to invest \$31 billion in 2016, a 62 per cent drop from the 2014 record of \$81 billion.

It's the biggest drop since CAPP and its predecessor organizations began keeping track in 1947 — the year of Alberta's first major oil discovery.

The U.S. benchmark oil price was above \$100 US a barrel in mid-2014. Now, it's at about \$37 US — below what most producers need to be profitable.

CAPP estimates 110,000 direct and indirect jobs have been lost in the downturn, which began in late 2014 and continued to deepen through to last February when crude fell below US\$30 a barrel for a time.



A water intake pipe for oil sands operations north of Fort McMurray, Alta., in 2015. Capital spending in Canada's oil and gas industry has dropped by \$50 US billion since 2014. IAN WILLMS/GETTY IMAGES

"It is a really tough time," CAPP president and CEO Tim McMillan said Wednesday.

"Almost no one is left untouched within their family circle and within their social circle."

Compounding the pain is

the inability for Canadian oil and gas producers to reach markets outside of the United States, a major global petroleum player itself.

Efforts to build oil export pipelines and liquefied natural gas terminals have faced stiff

environmental opposition and regulatory delays.

In a release, CAPP said building that infrastructure should be a "national priority" but did not specify what concrete actions it wants provincial and federal governments to take.

“
We're not just battling global prices, we're battling global prices with a further discount.

CAPP president Tim McMillan

Moving forward with pipelines and LNG, he said, is "the first and most obvious place to put us on that level playing field."

Much of the debate around pipelines and LNG has focused on the broader climate impacts from fossil fuels.

Greenpeace campaigner Keith Stewart said CAPP is being "wilfully blind" to how the global push to combat climate change is transforming energy markets.

"Canada needs to take action so that we win in the new world of low-carbon, renewable energy, not prop up the fossil fuel industry," he said. "Oil companies have a choice: Transform themselves into clean energy providers, or go the way of the dinosaur."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

INFRASTRUCTURE

Call for cash for rail, ports

Big investments in both rail and marine infrastructure will be required to accommodate an acceleration in commodities shipments, particularly oil, over the next decade, says the Conference Board of Canada.

In a report released Thursday, the agency said annual tonnage of commodities shipped by rail will grow more quickly than in the past, rising 30 per cent from 200 million tonnes in 2011 to 260 million tonnes by 2025.

The Conference Board said Canada's shifting trading patterns are putting additional pressure on the country's railways and ports to meet the growing demand for Canadian commodities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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FOOD

Bosses take aim at sugar overload

Two Canadian business leaders want the country's food industry to use more transparent labels so Canadians know just how much sugar they're consuming.

Indigo's CEO and the former CEO of Lululemon are making sugar one of their main targets as they fight to change industry standards.

Sugar is the enemy, said Heather Reisman, CEO of Indigo Books and Music Inc. and executive producer of the 2014 docu-

mentary Fed Up, which takes on the sugar industry.

Lots of processed food contains high amounts of sugar, she said.

"Today, sugar is in everything — everything," she said during a presentation to the Toronto Region Board of Trade earlier this week. "It's in ketchup. It's in canned foods. It's in the bread we eat."

For her part, she's prohibited Indigo stores from selling choco-

late treats at checkout counters to help hungry customers avoid making sugar-laden impulse purchases.

Canadians need to change the way they eat, Reisman said — and to succeed they need easier-to-understand food labels.

Currently, food packages list how many grams of sugar are contained in a single serving size (like half a cup).

"You have to be a chemist to understand how much sugar is

in the product," she said.

Instead, Reisman is calling for something more "straight-forward," like the number of teaspoons rather than grams.

The federal government pledged to revamp food labels in the October 2013 throne speech. Last June, Health Canada announced its proposed changes, and is now in the process of reviewing comments from a public consultation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR PERMANENT GUARDIANSHIP ORDER TO: Norman Black Plume

Take notice that on the 2nd day of June 2016 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 821, 601 - 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a Judicial Dispute Resolution will take place.

Take notice that on the 2nd day of June 2016 at 2:00 p.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1208, 601 - 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a hearing will take place.

Take notice that on the 6th day of July 2016 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 303, 601 - 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a Pre-Trial Conference will take place.

Take notice that on the 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 29th, and 30th days of August 2016 at 9:30 a.m., at Calgary Family Court, Courtroom # 1207, 601 - 5th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta, a Trial will take place.

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Contact: Jackie Ellice; Leanne Baines; Daniella Eggink
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3	9	1	7	4	2	8	6	5
7	2	6	3	8	5	4	1	9
1	3	2	4	9	6	5	8	7
8	6	7	2	5	3	9	4	1
5	4	9	8	7	1	2	3	6

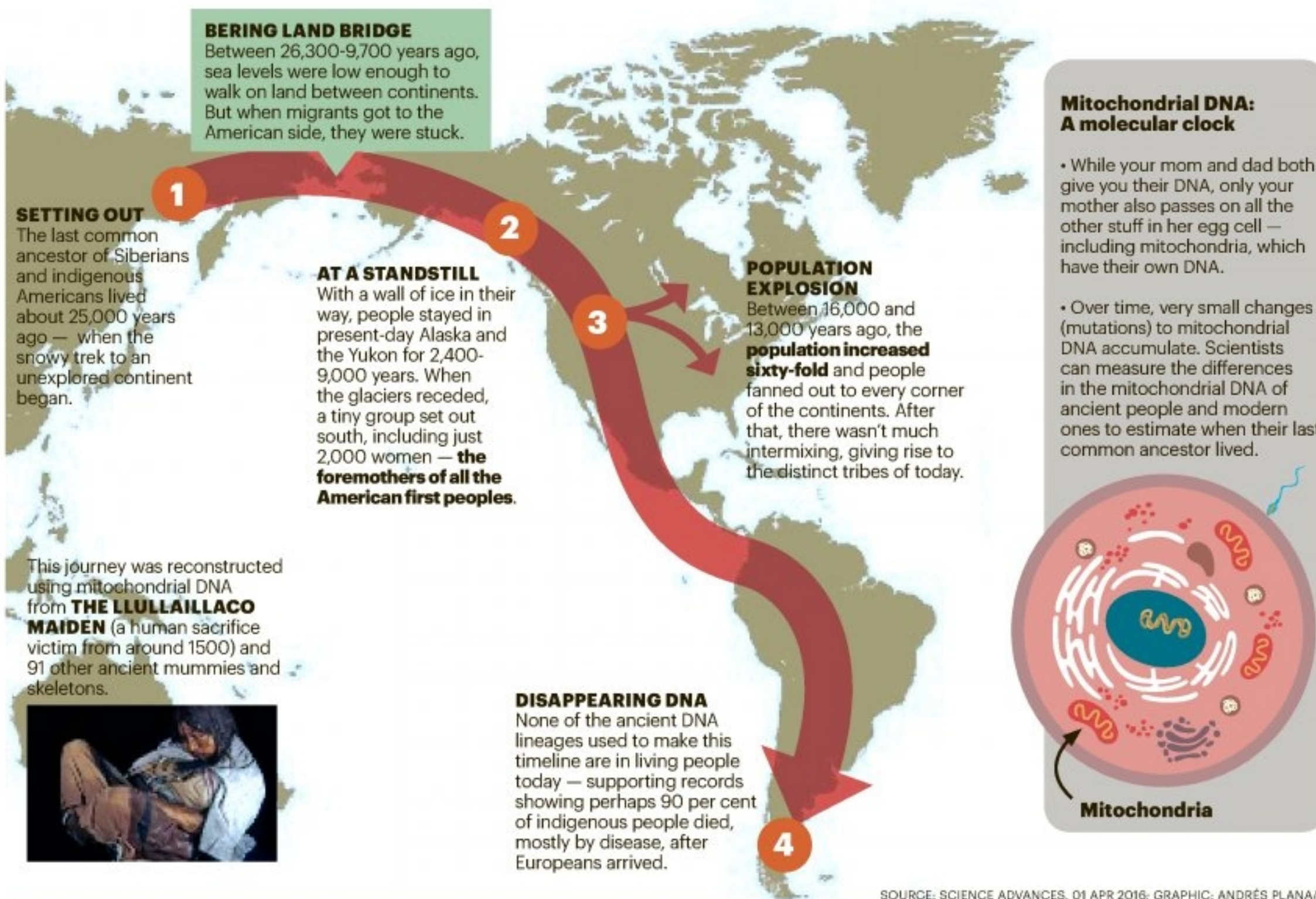
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Don't brush this off: There are 1,698 reports of injuries from people accidentally swallowing bristles from brushes used to clean BBQ grills.

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THEY ALMOST DIDN'T MAKE IT

How did a small band of Stone-Age hunters from Siberia sow the genetic seeds of hundreds of distinct ethnic groups — from the Mayans to the Mohawk — across two vast continents? New genetic research hints at a **video game-like quest** for survival.



SOURCE: SCIENCE ADVANCES, 01 APR 2016; GRAPHIC: ANDRÉS PLANA/METRO

FINDINGS Your week in science



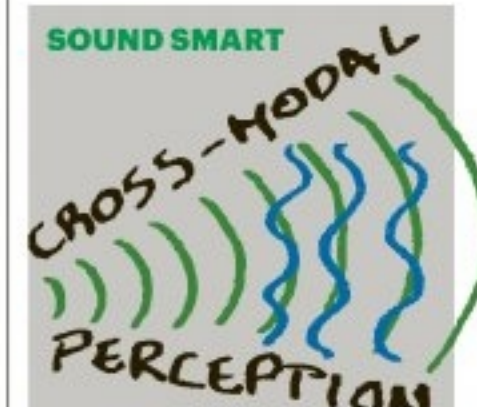
DUNES ON MARS

The sand dunes on Mars have mysterious, massive ripples three metres deep, NASA's Curiosity rover shows. They're far bigger than what's found on Earth, perhaps because of the chemicals in the Martian atmosphere or its heavy, volcanic sands.

MALE BIRTH CONTROL

A long-acting, reversible contraceptive for men effectively keeps lab rabbits from breeding like rabbits, according to research in the journal of Basic and Clinical Andrology. Human trials of the product — a gel injected into the vas deferens — start in late 2016.

SOUND SMART



DEFINITION

Cross-modal perception is an experience that involves interaction between two or more senses. The fact that chocolate apparently tastes sweeter when people are listening to a high-pitched sound is an example.

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"These fries taste off to me; maybe I'm experiencing **cross-modal perception** because of the obnoxious music in this bar."

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CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

Can a computer create life?

Scientists have built fake bacteria that can reproduce. If they're alive, what does "alive" even mean?
— Fred, Calgary

Oof. This is a tough one, Fred. Some background: Last month, a team lead by Craig Venter of the Human Genome Project announced the creation of Syn 3.0, a man-made bacterium with 473 genes — the fewest in any living thing ever. We think this is close to the minimum DNA a cell needs to

survive, reproduce and grow at a decent pace in a lab. Like the first synthetic cell, Syn 1.0, it reproduces on its own through cell division, just as real bacteria do.

This is exciting research. The authors still have no idea what about a third of Syn 3.0's genes do. Further studies might shed light on the earliest life and give us clues about the obscure parts of our own DNA.

Venter calls Syn the first species to have its parents be

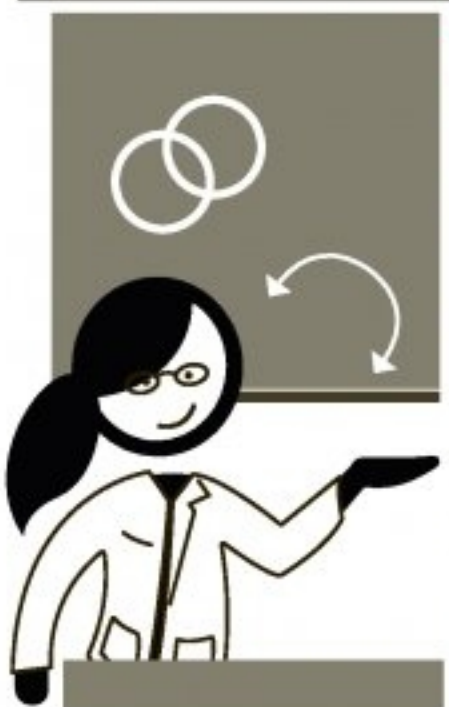
a computer. Freaky, right? It calls into question some of the fundamental things we believe about life.

"Life," the Encyclopaedia Britannica says, is "living matter that shows ... responsiveness, growth, metabolism, energy transformation, and reproduction." So Syn 3.0 is alive.

But that definition doesn't capture the full meaning of the word. There's no hint in that list about why so many people believe life is sacred and mucking around with it is wrong.

"What is the meaning of life?" isn't a science question. It's not *falsifiable*: You can't make a hypothesis and design an experiment to prove yourself wrong. Ditto for "Which life forms are ethical to make synthetically?" and "Who should get access to these tools?" We have to answer those as a global community, through the political process. Outside the lab.

Science Question?
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“The people I admire as artists are the people who really listen to themselves.”
Jake Gyllenhaal

Jake dancing with himself

DEMOLITION

Gyllenhaal nails another uncomfortable, maverick role

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada



Grief is no laughing matter, but with *Demolition*, Jake Gyllenhaal has made a whimsical movie about a man on the edge of falling into the abyss.

The film continues Gyllenhaal's quest to explore characters who aren't immediately likeable or understandable. No other mainstream actor puts himself or herself out there as consistently or successfully as Gyllenhaal. He takes chances, throwing himself at edgy portrayals of real people. Recently we've seen him as *Nightcrawler*'s reptilian Lou Bloom, a slick-talking drifter who falls into the freelance news-gathering business, a man who seeks his doppelganger in *Enemy* and *Southpaw*'s inarticulate brute with a heart of gold, *World Middleweight Boxing Champion* Billy Hope.

In *Demolition*, he plays investment banker Davis Mitchell. Wealthy and happy, his life is turned upside down when he and his wife Julia are bickering about

banal home stuff and their car is broadsided and she is killed.

Instead of being plunged into grief, Davis becomes numb, impervious to the seven stages that usually accompany grave loss. However, his behaviour becomes increasingly strange. When he writes a letter to a vending-machine company demanding a refund, he finds an outlet for his feelings and a therapist of sorts in customer-service rep Karen Moreno, played by Naomi Watts. As his letters grow increasingly heartfelt and raw, Karen's sympathetic ear and later, her rebellious son, help Davis demolish his life so he can rebuild his world.

"It's a story about a guy who begins the movie in a conventional way and ends the movie through an unconventional journey," said Gyllenhaal at a press conference I hosted with him at TIFF last year, "feeling however (he wants and needs to) and not how society tells him to feel."

Here the 35-year-old actor delivers strong work, grounding the film's quirkiness in a character you may not understand but

can empathize with. He does the heavy lifting, and his work humanizes this offbeat film.

When Davis spontaneously dances on the streets of New York or demolishes his marital home, it's outrageous but it is the sight of a man in pain refusing to face up to the fact that he wasn't a very good husband and will never be able to make amends to Julia. It's occasionally very funny, other times tragic.

The surreal dance scenes are surprising for the audience, but Gyllenhaal says they were a surprise to him as well.

"I always looked on the schedule for when the dancing was going to be," he said at the presser, revealing that director Jean Marc Vallée shot the scenes spontaneously.

"The first time I danced, we were on the train, and (Vallée) said, 'Okay, the train's pulling in,' and handed me an iPod, gave me an earphone and said, 'Are you ready to dance? Let's go.' By the end, I didn't want to stop dancing. I made like a whirling dervish."

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

The Boss ★★
Demolition ★★★★★
Hardcore Henry ★★
I Saw the Light ★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★★ SEE IT
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In *Demolition*, Jake Gyllenhaal plays investment banker Davis Mitchell whose life is turned upside down when his wife is killed. CONTRIBUTED

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Director X marks a new phase in movies

ACROSS THE LINE

Hotline Bling creator takes on a big-screen hockey story

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Director X (real name Julien Christian Lutz) has captured some of hip-hop's most iconic images on film. His Hotline Bling music video racked up almost 300 million online views, and he's directed promos for everyone from Rihanna and Kendrick Lamar to Iggy Azalea to Busta Rhymes, but now that he's made the leap to the movies don't expect a big screen musical from him.

"I've lived my life for almost twenty years with guys rapping or singing or singers who wish they were rappers," he says.

"I've swum in those waters enough. Now that I've got people talking I don't want them to talk about rapping and singing. Forgive me if that is not something I'm into right now."

"Maybe when I'm an old man doing a period piece about this time it might be interesting but I've always felt hip hop is like a movie right in front of your face. Chris Brown and Drake really got into a fight at a bar and threw vodka bottles at one another. Me fictionalizing a movie of that [isn't necessary], you're watching the movie unfold in front of your face, bullet time. For someone else, go on ahead, but there are other stories I'd like to tell and speak in my own voice."

Over the years X has been connected to other projects—there were rumours he would direct a vampire film called Razorwire—but says he chose Across the Line as his debut feature film because "it was actually about something."

"It's about where I'm from," he says. "It's about Canada but a deeper level of Canadian history and Canadian communities. It's not just a story about Toronto or a story we know, regardless of the city."

Inspired by true events, the film is a study of race in small-town Nova Scotia as seen from the perspective of a young National Hockey League prospect. When his chance at the big

league is threatened by family problems and racial tension at his high school, he must overcome intolerance, cultural tension and the odds to fulfil his dream.

"It's a story that had to be told," says the director, whose next film is a sequel to the movie Center Stage.

X's music video work is characterized by his own particular

“It’s about Canada, but a deeper level of Canadian history and Canadian communities.”
Director X



Across the Line is the debut feature film from acclaimed hip-hop director Julien Christian Lutz, a.k.a. Director X. CONTRIBUTED

ABOUT THE FILM

Hockey's hidden history

• Nova Scotia native Floyd Kane wrote the film, which stars Stephan James (pictured left) as a prodigious and book-smart black hockey player being eyed by NHL scouts. Hurting his chances are

his brother's nefarious activities as well as deep-rooted racial tensions in North Preston, N.S., which is billed as Canada's largest black community.

• Co-stars include Sarah Jeffery, Shamier Anderson, Lanette Ware, Steven Love and Jim Codrington.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



sense of style, something he had to put on the back burner while making Across the Line.

"I brought myself to it but at the same time there aren't any

scenes that are just pure visual fun," he says. "There was no John Woo cool. When you're making movies you have a responsibility to respect the story

over cool awesome shots that belong in blockbusters as opposed to a narrative. But at the same time it's not just turning on the lights and putting the camera on a tripod. It's finding a style that aids the story as opposed to just something that is cool stuff."

Across the Line's story has already connected with festival audiences. It won Best Atlantic Feature at the Atlantic Film Festival and earned kind reviews at the Beverly Hills and Boston International Film Festivals, which X thinks are driven by the realism on the screen. "It's inspired by life," he says, "and takes turns that only come out of life."



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10 MOVIES TO ANTICIPATE THIS SPRING

The next three months bring a strange assortment of high and low art to movie theatres. April still has the studio castoffs and Oscar holdovers of winter, but also the promise of fresher attractions. May is the month of the Cannes Film Festival and June gets summer and blockbuster season fully underway. Here are 10 films I'm most looking forward to: **PETER HOWELL** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



APRIL 8

Demolition

Love is a many splintered thing in this cockeyed romance from Jean-Marc Vallée (*Dallas Buyers Club*), which opened TIFF 2015. Jake Gyllenhaal's emotional wreck of a Romeo swings a sledgehammer rather than a bouquet of roses — but appliances get smashed, not heads, and hearts require healing. *Demolition* is all about feeling: something, anything, even if you have to bust through walls to find it. Naomi Watts co-stars.



APRIL 29

A Beautiful Planet

I'm a sucker for space stories, especially real ones. This IMAX extravaganza looks to deliver in both eye-popping and ecological terms. Directed by Toni Myers (*Space Station 3D*) and narrated by Jennifer Lawrence from the vantage point of the International Space Station, it shows the beauty and fragility of this blue orb, our shared conveyance through the cosmos.

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MAY 27

Love and Friendship

Saw the Sundance premiere and loved every poison-penned minute of it. Whit Stillman's adaptation of Jane Austen's unpublished novella *Lady Jane*, starring Kate Beckinsale and Chloë Sevigny, make for such a delightful comedy of manners. Stillman and Austen are more than a century apart, but they share a satirist's love of language and of the divide between what is said and what is really meant, especially pertaining to matters of affection.

APRIL 29

Keanu

Don't think Keanu Reeves, think Key & Peele, as this shaggy cat story marks a hopeful leap from the small screen to the big one for hot comedy duo Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele. They play pals who pose as drug dealers to snatch back their adorable pet kitten, stolen from them by deadly gang-bangers. Will kitty Keanu steal the picture? Key & Peele series director Atencio takes the helm, Luis Guzmán and Will Forte co-star.



MAY 20

The Nice Guys

It's always a good sign when the trailers keep getting better for an upcoming movie, especially when on paper it seems like just another odd-couple comedy. But the couple is Ryan Gosling and Russell Crowe, who seem well matched as detectives and reluctant partners in 1970s Los Angeles. And the director is Shane Black, who made *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang* and *Iron Man 3*. I'm already there, but talk of a Cannes premiere certainly piques interest.



MAY 6

Captain America: Civil War

After the trainwreck that is *Batman v Superman: The Dawn of Justice*, it's hard to look forward to another superhero dust-up. But this big-screen brawl between

Chris Evans' Captain America and Robert Downey Jr.'s Iron Man looks to redeem the concept, if only because it's directed by Joe and Anthony Russo, who earned their blockbuster stripes with *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*. And Marvel movies are better than DC ones, amiright?

MAY 13

Money Monster

Five years after her Mel Gibson misfire *The Beaver*, Jodie Foster again directs a movie about damaged males. George Clooney plays a Wall Streeter turned TV personality whose brash stock advice has made him a star — and also enemies. He's taken hostage by a vengeful viewer, in what sounds like a *King of Comedy*-style thriller. There's talk of a Cannes premiere, which ups the critical ante. Julia Roberts and Jack O'Connell co-star.



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JUNE 10

Warcraft

A movie based on a video game is usually a bad idea, not to mention a dud. But here's a case where you have to trust the filmmaker, at least going in. Writer/director Duncan Jones (*Moon*, *Source Code*) has done great things with sci-fi and fantasy material, so hope springs eternal. Set in the fractious world of Azeroth, where resident humans and invading orcs find common cause in the concept of home. Travis Fimmel and Toby Kebbell co-star.



JUNE 17

Tempest Storm

She was born humble Annie Banks 88 years ago in the town of Eastman, Georgia. But as exotic dancer Tempest Storm, she's lived a life of glamour and infamy as a burlesque teaser and bedmate to celebrities, JFK and Elvis among them. In the 1950s, she insured her breasts for \$1 million. There's obviously a lot raging with this Storm, and Nimisha Mukerji's doc weathers it.

JUNE 24

The Shallows

Duuun dun, duuun dun. Yes, it does look something of a *Jaws* knock-off: Blake Lively as a surfer threatened by a great white shark. It's actually a woman vs. beast thriller, since Lively's surfer gal, stranded on a buoy, has to figure out how to get past ferocious teeth to reach the shore. Director Jaime Collet-Serra managed closed-quarters suspense with *Non-Stop*, so let's hope he's as good in the water as he was in the air.





Naomi Watts, who stars opposite Jake Gyllenhaal in *Demolition*, says she embraced the film director's unconventional approach.

Coaxing out award-worthy acting

DEMOLITION

Eschewing lights, makeup and blocking is director's style

Jean-Marc Vallee can't help but offer up his two cents as a photographer sets up a light for a quick photo shoot before an interview.

It's too close, too bright and too hot, the Quebec director says.

This is not the way he likes to shoot, Vallee adds wearily as a long day of media inter-

views takes place at the Toronto International Film Festival.

And it's certainly not the way he approached his latest film, *Demolition*.

Jake Gyllenhaal stars as a young widower who is unable to express his grief and spirals into increasingly erratic and destructive behaviour.

As with Vallee's previous films *Wild*, *Dallas Buyers Club* and *Cafe de Flore*, this emotion-laden drama featured a loose production style that eschewed lights, makeup and blocking.

"It's not (a situation where) the actor has the feel of the light of a spotlight — like (the

light) that was so bright earlier for the picture — so when you have this on set, the actors they know, they feel the light and now they want to be lit," he said during a round of interviews last September.

"Now, when you don't have this, they don't get self-conscious, they don't have to hit a mark and it doesn't put style on top. Style doesn't matter. It's not about style, it's about storytelling and characters and emotion."

It's an approach that has established Vallee as a master of drawing out raw, emotional performances — not to mention Academy Awards atten-



Jean-Marc Vallee CONTRIBUTED

tion — from his actors.

That includes the Oscar-winning turns from Matthew McConaughey and Jared Leto

in *Dallas Buyers Club*, and Oscar nominations for Reese Witherspoon and Laura Dern for their work in *Wild*.

This time, Vallee found a willing partner in Gyllenhaal, who plays the emotionally stunted Davis, and Naomi Watts, as a single mom who is gradually drawn into his grief-stricken orbit.

Watts said she embraced Vallee's unconventional approach, which included using only natural light sources during filming and virtually no makeup or hair-styling.

"There's really no vanity involved. Once you let go of that, the actors can be free,"

Watts said at the festival, adding that "every day you'd go to work and never know what was going to happen."

"You can be doing a scene and if he doesn't like it he'll take a break. For instance, there was a scene we were shooting on a bench in Coney Island and he just wasn't feeling it. So he said, 'Get up, climb the fence and run down the beach.' Jake and I both started running down and the birds flew in and suddenly it started coming to him because it felt more poetic. Then we came back and did the scene and it worked better."

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Fear the Walking Dead gives 'shocking left turn'



Cliff Curtis as Travis and Kim Dickens as Madison. FRANK OCKENFELS 3/AMC

TELEVISION

Actress says spinoff puts characters in vulnerable spot

Actress Kim Dickens, who's been fruitfully shifting from TV projects (*Treme*, *House of Cards*) to movies (*Gone Girl*), is now firmly ensconced as "mama bear" Madison Clark on *Fear the Walking Dead* (FTWD), which premieres its second season on April 10.

After an initial six-episode run, which successfully piggy-backed on *The Walking Dead*, its sister show and ratings juggernaut, FTWD now returns for 15 episodes, tracking the family drama of Clark and her partner Travis Manawa (Cliff Curtis) through the lens of the same zombie apocalypse.

Dickens feels this fictional apocalypse is a metaphor for whatever society's fears are.

"Through our story, the audience examines our own primal fears — rampant outbreak of an infectious disease, war, an invasion, or whatever triggers that fear — and how we deal with it. 'What would I or we do if there was an infectious outbreak?'"

She laughs when asked what she would do.

"I'd get all my family and

friends together, and probably go over to Cliff Curtis's home, let him take care of me. Go to their house in New Zealand."

Curtis, who's of Maori descent and played tough guys in *Training Day* and *Once Were Warriors*, would undoubtedly be up for the job.

FTWD explores these questions in a different environment this season: on the open water.

Last season, audiences were introduced to enigmatic but well-heeled character Mr. Strand (Colman Domingo), who tells schoolteacher Madison he has a "home" on the water. In the trailer for the new season, we see our beleaguered heroes on said boat. And FTWD executive producer Dave Erickson says the new episodes will draw their tone more from movies like *Dead Calm* and Roman Polanski's *Knife in the Water*.

Which raises questions like, can zombies swim? And who else has the bright idea to leave the land?

Dickens, who sees Madison as a "ferocious mother out to protect her family," says of the new setting: "It's a whole new environment, but it could turn out you're just as vulnerable there. We're all displaced now and, having left our homes, we can't go back there. Now we're stranded in the middle of the sea on a boat."

"It's a completely shocking

left turn. Our show now offers this other window into what happened during the same mythological apocalypse."

Dickens says it's a joy working with award-winning performers such as Curtis and Ruben Blades, whose Latin music career recently earned him his seventh Grammy Award.

She's also jazzed about playing Madison.

"She's a wonderful fantasy figure for me; I certainly couldn't be as badass as her," she says. "She's got a very honourable profession as a teacher, and often they're underestimated and certainly underpaid. But she's got a really good BS detector, which gives her a good sense of almost fearlessness when it comes to humanity and dealing with the problems of the kids. A beautiful yet flawed character, and the dark past that she's kept suppressed is probably the thing that will serve her well."

Grateful for the built-in audience that *The Walking Dead* gave to her show, Dickens says she trusts viewers will come back because FTWD just "gets better and better."

"It really takes off and catches fire; expect it to take exciting turns. We definitely have to fend off any zombie attacks, but at the same time our fellow humans will continue to be our biggest threat."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ZOMBIE FLICKS

Night of the Living Dead (1968)

George Romero's black-and-white classic set the bar for the genre: "Welcome to a night of total terror!"

28 Days Later ... (2002)

Directed by Danny Boyle, who later won a Best Director Oscar for *Slumdog Millionaire*, this terrifying zombie thriller reinvigorated the genre with some smart political metaphors.

Shaun of the Dead (2004)

Directed by Edgar Wright with actors Simon Pegg and Nick Frost, this British horror comedy strikes a balance between satire, yucks and toothy zombies.

Warm Bodies (2013)

A funny zombie twist on a rom-com: hot zombie boy (Nicholas Hoult) meets and saves cute girl (Teresa Palmer) from an attack, and his "warm heart" helps change both the monsters and humans.

World War Z (2013)

The scariest zombies of all time because they're lightning quick, not shuffling slowpokes. But hey, we've got Brad Pitt racing to stop a zombie pandemic.

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Sing for the girls, stay for the refuge

FILM

Star of musical romance says he connects with band role

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Pete Townshend, guitar god of The Who, says he learned to play guitar and started a band for two reasons:

A: His nose. B: To meet girls.

About his nose he said, "It was huge. It was the reason I played guitar." He also noted that bands (even band members with large noses) "always got the best girls."

"It is definitely one of the things that inspires lads to play music," agrees *Sing Street* star Ferdia Walsh-Peelo.

Ask most male musicians why they joined a band and 99 out of 100 will tell you it was for one very simple reason, to meet women. Art, money and fame are often far distant second place to the lure of the

opposite sex.

Such is the case with Conor (Walsh-Peelo) a 15-year-old school boy with a crush on Raphina (Lucy Boynton) in *Sing Street*, the new musical romance from *Once* director John Carney that plays like a spiritual cousin to *The Commitments*.

"I think that is the thing that gets Conor started and gets people started in pop music," he says. "Then you form the band and you find refuge in the music. It becomes more than just getting the girl. It's actually a way of coping when things are crap."

"I didn't have a great time in school and I went through all these similar kind of phases (as Conor). I remember seeing (the John Lennon biopic) *No One Knows Where the Boy Went* and me and this other guy at school bought leather jackets, gelled our hair back and went into school. Bringing combs with us and doing our hair like in *Grease*. Looking like complete t—s running around town just doing mad stuff. It's all part of the process. Finding yourself and finding your voice."

Born and reared just 30



Ferdia Walsh-Peelo and Mark McKenna star in *Sing Street*. CONTRIBUTED

minutes outside Dublin in County Wicklow, in the film the young actor is the perfect picture of an '80s rock star, despite knowing next to nothing about the decade or the music when he signed

on to play Conor.

"It was a huge learning curve," he says. "I hadn't reached that point where I was diving into '80s music. I suppose I was up to the late '60s. When I went into *Sing Street*

I was playing bands and we were still in that place. I was listening to loads of country, music from Tennessee, skiffle music, bluegrass. I had been experimenting with loads of different kinds of music and

“

I got into it after watching a million ridiculous '80s videos

Ferdia Walsh-Peelo

I got into the '80s stuff when we shot the movie.

"It took me a while but then I got into it after watching a million ridiculous '80s videos. I just got it," he says. "They just weren't taking themselves seriously at all. It was just that kind of era. It was all just mad, wasn't it? There was loads of horrendous stuff around at that time but there were a few gems. Hall and Oates are absolute gems of the pop stuff."

The musician-turned-actor also singles out The Cure and The Talking Heads as "great stuff," but says his heart lies in folk music.

"Folk music is always where it's been at for me. I played skiffle music with bands for the craic (fun) of it but when I came back, in my room I'd be listening to Joni Mitchell."

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LeBron James set to produce his first feature

GOSSIP

NBA player gets behind project based on true story

Basketball megastar LeBron James will produce his first movie, based on a real-life prank in which a humour writer fooled people into believing he was an NBA draft pick, a source said Wednesday.

The movie, which the Cleveland Cavaliers forward is producing with New Line Cinema, is the first film for his production company, SpringHill Entertainment, which signed a contract in July with New Line's parent company, Warner Brothers.

The film is inspired by a hoax carried out by Connor Toole, a writer for the humour website Elite Daily, a source briefed on the project said, confirming a report on entertainment industry website



A source says LeBron James will produce his first film through his production company SpringHill Entertainment. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Deadline Hollywood.

In June, Toole posed as a player selected as a second round pick during the draft, where NBA basketball teams select new players from American universities and from overseas. At six-foot ten-inches (around two meters), all Toole had to do was put on a suit and mill about Barclays

Center in Brooklyn where the draft took place.

Mistaken as a player, he next headed out on the town in New York wearing a cap with the Utah Jazz's emblem, and was regularly stopped by passersby for selfies.

Toole visited several bars where patrons and bartenders even offered him free drinks.

and toasted him.

The less than three minute video of his escapades caught the attention of another production company, Madica, which proposed a collaboration with SpringHill.

New Line and SpringHill then acquired the rights to the video.

AFP

A full-page background image with a green tint. It shows a man and a woman smiling and looking towards the camera. The man is on the left, and the woman is on the right. They appear to be in a casual setting, possibly a home or office.

metro

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A close-up portrait of George Canyon, a man with a slight smile, wearing a dark blue cowboy hat. The background is a rustic wooden wall.

GEORGE gc CANYON

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Growing up in front of the cameras

BOREALIS

Joey King is only 16, but she's been in some big films

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



To steal an overworked epithet, Joey King is a rising star. After all, the L.A. actress is hot off the hit TV series *Fargo*, recently named one of today's top teen actors by *Variety* magazine and won best actress at the Vancouver Film Festival.

For many 16-year-olds, fame would go straight to their heads, but not King.

"Obviously, I let myself have these moments," said King recently from California.

"You get excited and proud but it's never like I deserved that (because) to be honest, there's another girl who had an amazing performance elsewhere that also deserves it — I just happened to get recognized."

If she sounds uniquely humble, that's because Joey King is.

After all, at 16 she has accomplished more than most actors do in a lifetime.

From working in such thrillers as *The Dark Knight Rises* and *White House Down* to lining up an impressive array of hotly-anticipated movies — such as the sequel to 1996's sci-fi smash *Independence Day*, King has every ex-



Joey King, left, and Jonas Chernick star in *Borealis*, a little Canadian film about a road trip to Churchill, Manitoba. CONTRIBUTED

“

Growing up around all these people that much wiser, more experienced in life than me — I've always just wanted to keep up

16-year-old Joey King on working with adults on many films

cuse to be smug.

"I think that my mindset for how I think now comes from growing up around adults," explained King, pointing out she's now a 12-year

veteran in showbiz.

"Growing up around all these people that much wiser, more experienced in life than me — I've always just wanted to keep up."

Her humility certainly shines through in King's upcoming feature as well.

A quirky low-budget Canadian drama called *Borealis*, King is gaining praise for her refined portrayal of an estranged youth on a road trip to chilly Churchill, Manitoba, with her father (Jonas Chernick) to see the northern lights, before an illness steals her sight.

Not exactly the equivalent to working on a big Hollywood blockbuster.

"Being on a set like *Borealis*

(and) *Independence Day*, the difference is unreal," laughed King insisting she doesn't have a preference over either experience.

"But a common theme among every film I work on is that everyone who is on the film — the crew members behind the scenes, people on camera — they're all so passionate about the work they're doing."

"So big or small, it doesn't matter."

"I just love working with passionate people."

MORE ON KING

• **How Joey ended up in Manitoba:** King only discovered *Borealis* after filmmaker/star Jonas Chernick penned a four-page letter pleading her to join the cast. "It was just a beautifully-written letter and it was so sweet and I could just tell how much passion these guys had for their film," said King. "I fell in love with the story and I was on board 100 per cent."

• **Biggest surprise about filming in Canada:** "My biggest surprise was that the (Assiniboine) Zoo let us use their polar bear sanctuary for one of our scenes and, with no questions, cleared out the polar bears," said King. "That could never happen in L.A."



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Contestants of Idols past talk about their lives now

David Hernandez

The seventh-season semifinalist will tour this summer in North America and head to the Middle East to perform for U.S. troops. While describing himself as a committed balladeer, his new album (not yet titled), produced by Printz Board of the Black Eyed Peas, is pop-and-R&B influenced: "It's like Cee Lo Green meets myself." Board's production team shot the video for Beautiful, the upcoming first single.



Kimberley Locke

After finishing third in season two, Locke had a hit single with 8th World Wonder and dabbled in TV and modelling. She's still singing, with a cover of I Will Survive out this week, but she's also building a diverse career portfolio: "I've re-branded myself as the artist, the coach, the cook." She's on the East Coast working with others on their music projects through her company, I AM Entertainment, teaches singing and has an online show, Cooking with Kimberley.



As American Idol wrapped its 15-year run this week, four former performers shared highlights of how the show helped lead them to where they are today.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Melinda Doolittle

A professional backup singer in Nashville, Tennessee, before she became a top-three finisher in season six, Doolittle remains loyal to the city and music. She's travelling internationally with her band and working on an upcoming project — an album and show — that will "represent all the powerful soul songs that define the genre of soul." It's a chance to collaborate with her favourite artists, she says, but isn't ready to name names.



Blake Lewis

The Seattle beatboxer, who finished second to season-six winner Jordin Sparks, has parked himself in Los Angeles to pursue music and voice-over work, building on his credits in video games (The Last Gremlin) and anime. With his own record label, Lewis is producing other artists as well as music for commercials. He's toured with fellow ex-"Idol" contestants as part of the cover band Postmodern Jukebox ("A super fun hang") and is working on a new beatboxing album.

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Tyler Perry has four shows currently airing on OWN. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tyler the creator

TELEVISION

Perry reaching new heights on OWN Network

When Tyler Perry began creating shows for the then-struggling OWN Network four years ago, he'd send the scripts he'd written to Oprah Winfrey for approval — and she'd wince.

"I would say, 'I think that's too much! It's over the top! Oh my God, I can't believe this is happening!'" Winfrey recounts about Perry's first OWN show, *The Haves and Have Nots*, a prime-time drama fueled by conniving people, sex and black-mail, now in its fourth season.

Most might have acquiesced to Winfrey. Not Perry.

"He would say to me, 'I know this audience better than you do, I know what the audience wants,'" she said. "And he'd say, 'I'm telling you it's gonna work.' And every time he's been right."

Knowing the audience and what they want has been the key to Perry's success, going back to when he was putting on plays in the chitlin circuit with a loudmouth, irascible gun-toting character who would become known as Madea.

Perry describes his fans as the people working in service jobs, the women in the church pews, the family that has a crazy relative like Madea and can laugh about it. And like Perry, who was abandoned by his father, grew up in poverty and survived sexual abuse, the audience is familiar with struggle.

"He's creating an empire based on what he knows, based on what he likes, and he's doing it himself, and he's coming from a very challenging background," said Viola Davis, who starred in *Madea Goes to Jail*. "But I think he has a vision

that is much larger. And the thing I love about him, too, is that he's targeting an audience that is underserved."

It's those people who have helped his 15 self-produced films gross more than \$740 million at the box office worldwide. He's built his own Tyler Perry Studios in Atlanta and has four shows on OWN — dramas *The Haves and Have Nots* and *If Loving You Is Wrong*, and the comedies *Love Thy Neighbor* and *For Better or Worse*, which started a new season this month.



"Somehow I've been given a seat at the table, and with that seat at the table comes tremendous responsibility to make sure that what I'm doing, I'm doing to the best of my ability,"

Tyler Perry

"You get some laughter, you get some education, you get some therapy and you get some joy and some happiness, and at the end of it, you realize you've learned something," Perry said.

OWN was floundering when he first came to Winfrey and proposed producing shows for the network (he also writes, casts and directs all of them). *The Haves and the Have Nots* delivered record-setting ratings for OWN, with last season's finale scoring more than 3.7 million viewers.

He had never written a TV drama before *The Haves and*

Have Nots, and there was a steep learning curve.

"I needed an opportunity to learn. This is what I love about my audience, they always give me the grace to learn," he said.

He also points to his growth as an actor: Once confining himself to the Madea character because he didn't think he had the skills to do more, he shed the costume in his own films and in others; his portrayal of the slick lawyer in *Gone Girl* drew high praise, and he's due to appear in the adaption of the bestselling novel *Brain on Fire* this year, along with *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 2*.

Of course, to his many critics, he hasn't gotten it right a lot. His slapstick comedies have been lambasted as too basic, his dramas too melodramatic, his messaging too preachy, his writing too simplistic.

But Perry, 47, pushes back against those who look down on his work, like Madea, who will return this fall in *Boo! A Madea Halloween*.

"I'm not trying to write *Rev- enant*. I'm not trying to do *Gone Girl*," he says. "None of those things interest me. As an artist, this is what I like to paint. If you don't like my paintings, then they're not for you."

Winfrey likened Perry's appeal to a church revival: "That's exactly what's happening when you go to those plays. It's like sitting in church. ... How dare anyone say to the people who respond to that art and say that's not art?"

Perry remains unfazed — he's just onto the next project. That includes his Atlanta production studio, which he's continuing to expand. He's also been tapped by TLC to write, produce and direct a political drama, *Too Close to Home*, which will be its first scripted series.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For the Range, vocal sampling is personal

MUSIC

James Hinton uses voices of, meets YouTube unknowns

James Hinton, the Brooklyn electronic producer who records and performs as the Range, plumbed the darkest depths of YouTube for many a long, lonely night in search of the obscure vocal samples that grace his new album, *Potential*, so it only seems fair he would be asked to play one of the YouTube showcases during this year's South by Southwest festival.

YouTube having a bit of money to throw around and all, these weren't bad showcases to attend, in part because of the free cocktails and fancy snacks circling the room all day and night long, but mostly because the production level was beyond ridiculous.

Hinton, in particular, seemed to relish in the plush sound system, driving the thick tides of bass that ooze through his gorgeous downtempo compositions to levels that were probably just this side of dangerous but too tingly and immersive to resist. It was like bathing in a sea of low end.

"It was insane. The low end on it was nuts. I could see my screen, like, vibrating," says Hinton, who these days plays live behind a screen-shaped holographic plate in deference to his chosen means of sourcing vocalists.

"And I love it. I love it. I spent enough time working on the low end on this album that I'm happy that it got boosted that much."

You can sense the investment that went into *Potential* simply from the fact that its heart-swelling piano and keyboard melodies and subtle percussive crescendos sound like emotion distilled to its purest musical form. It's a record that sounds like it cares, like it might offer you a hanky and a shoulder to cry on. And it does care.

Hinton didn't just nick a verse or two from random strangers on the Internet and move on; he tracked each and every one of them down, made contact, politely asked permission to use their voices and offered them a cut of the royalties.

He made a point of only working with people whose video countenance gave him



Brooklyn electronic producer James Hinton, aka the Range.

ALEXANDRA GAVILLET

good vibes, too. As he recently told Pitchfork, he couldn't bear to work with anyone who looked like "a horrible human being."

Since then, Hinton has taken his relationship with the unknowns singing into the void on *Potential*, his second album as the Range, one step further by meeting them personally all over the world in a new documentary directed by Daniel Kaufman entitled *Superimpose*.

It premiered before his set at SXSW and will see wider release in May.

His instincts about his virtual collaborators were right, he says.

"You kind of assume these people are who you think they are," he says. "In my life, I try not to deal with people who are idiots or annoying or not

genuine, so it's been awesome to have that validated when I have met them. I definitely thought they were special people and it's just been totally confirmed down the line.

"The documentary, I think, showcases that quite well, but I've had a couple of meetings with people who weren't in the documentary and it's been really, really awesome to meet those people in real life, as well."

Hinton goes to great lengths to unearth YouTube material that practically no one has seen. He studied theoretical physics in university so, unsurprisingly, has developed a complex, completely secret Internet-search algorithm that allows him to find the most arcane of the arcane online: videos of dads singing songs to their daughters or teenagers

singing Ariana Grande covers in their bedrooms that have barely made it to double-digit views.

"YouTube is very geared, as is Google, with page rank to trying to surface the content that's most linked and most shown. I'm learning the algorithm a little bit better at this point, but it's still a battle to find something that's explicitly low views," he says.

"But these search terms help me find that on top of, like, filtering stuff that's not high-definition and maybe trying to start at page 10 or page 15 and then going down. Things are categorically dismissed if they have a huge amount of plays and I just won't watch them."

No wonder, then, that some of his "guest" singers were a little taken aback when he reached out to them.

Pros, they ain't.

One of them, a 13-year-old London rapper named Kruddy Zak, now 18, was completely convinced he was getting scammed. They were, however, uniformly appreciative when they realized what Hinton was up to.

"That was the thing I was most uncertain about how it would go. It's such a strange concept to have someone you don't know reach out to you and be, like, 'Hey, you know that video you made three or four years ago? I want to use it and put some production behind it,'" he says.

"I think the music is certainly accessible, but it's pretty specific so I just wasn't sure how it would go. I would have assumed at least half the people would have said 'no' or they weren't into it or would not have got back, but as soon as people got the message and heard the songs it was uniformly positive and excited. So it was great."

Hinton has come out of the nearly two-year project — which involved more than 200 hours spent well down the YouTube rabbit hole — with one of the first truly great albums of 2016.

Potential is so lushly melodic in a manner that evokes Philip Glass, Moby in his more reflective moods and modern classical-piano music all at once that its stately blend of abstract hip hop, Warp-esque ambient techno, bass-y Baltimore club music and rave-y arms-up atmosphere will appeal to you even if you have no idea what that last sentence meant.

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How Joel Plaskett made it big

BOOK

Author looks at musician's career success

Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

His face is on the cover, but *Nowhere With You* isn't really about Joel Plaskett.

"It's about the notion of creating art in the Maritimes, in a place that so many people leave behind so constantly," the book's author, Josh O'Kane, said from his adopted home of Toronto during a recent telephone interview.

"This is a guy who stayed behind and was able to have this really celebrated creative career and this really celebrated art — celebrated across the country — without having to compromise where he lived, written from the perspective of someone who decided he had to go."

O'Kane, a New Brunswick ex-pat *Globe and Mail* reporter,

spent two years of his life documenting Plaskett's, but more so documenting the "socio-geographic-economic-whatever context" that enabled the Juno award-winning Dartmouthian's decades-long career.

And even though that's how he pitched it, Plaskett was, at least at first, admittedly reluctant to play along.

"I was kinda like, 'I don't know if a book's gonna be that interesting, to be honest,' maybe because there isn't a bunch of drug problems and divorces in my life," he said during a telephone interview from the van on the road to Cape Breton — oddly, the exact same setting as the first page of O'Kane's book. The author was persistent, Plaskett said, and the overarching theme of the never-ending Maritime struggle of whether to stay put or split town eventually won him over.

"Those are themes I tackle in my songs, and he was obviously picking up on that feeling that there was a story to be told there," he said.

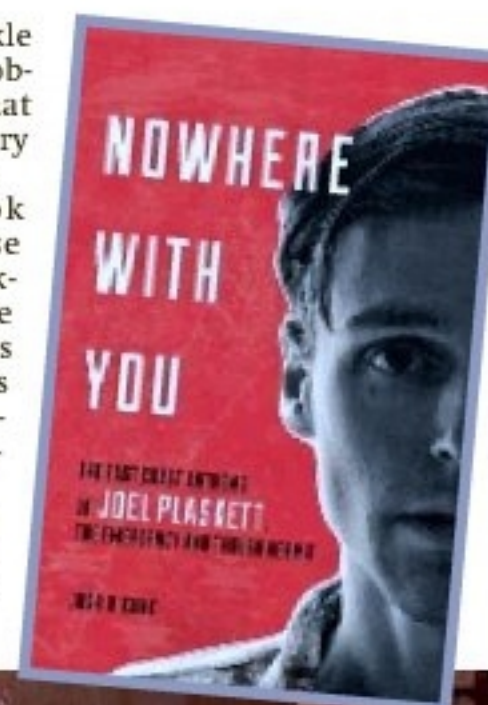
For O'Kane, the book was a way to make sense of his feelings about Plaskett's music — which he calls the soundtrack to his move from the Maritimes to the big city in 2009 — and his feelings about leaving home.

He does that by looking back at why exactly Maritimers have left home for so long.

"I start out with a very broad story of why the Maritimes are so isolated, and then I zoom in bit by bit," he said.

That context, he said, allows his reader to "really understand just how crazy it is that this was able to happen, that Joel Plaskett's career was able to happen."

Plaskett understands he's fortunate to have been able to stay, and while he had opportunities to leave, "there were always more pluses to staying."



Joel Plaskett sits in his Dartmouth Studio, New Scotland Yard, last year. JEFF HARPER/METRO

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This is a guy who stayed behind and was able to have this really celebrated creative career ... without having to compromise where he lived. Josh O'Kane

All Saints strike back with song

NEW ALBUM

Sisters Nicole and Natalie on how a breakup inspired them

As kids growing up in Toronto and Hamilton, Nicole and Natalie Appleton would belt out tunes by Madonna, Taylor Dayne, Whitney Houston and Wham! in their bedrooms. Flash-forward 30some years, and they're pop icons in their own right, having shot to slinky-pop fame in the late '90s as half of the girl group All Saints.

Nearly 19 years after hits Know Where It's At and Never Ever cemented them as the Pepsi to the Spice Girls' Coke, the group have reunited for their fourth album, Red Flag.

"Lyrically it's a very honest, true album," says Natalie, 42. The debut single, the slow-burn dance groove One Strike was written by All Saints' Shaznay Lewis about an hours-long phone call she had with Nicole, 41, after her then-husband, Oasis's Liam Gallagher, told her

he was expecting a child with an American journalist. Nicole filed for divorce in April 2014.

"It brought tears to my eyes," says Natalie of when she first heard the song. "I knew what it was about. I didn't cry because of the song, I cried because I remember. I went through it with my sister. We were there when it all happened. It just reminded me of what happened at the time, so of course it's emotional."

She finds the bridge, which includes the stripped-back spoken lines "I don't want to stay, time to go/I don't want to be in this home," particularly poignant. "That's the bit that gets to me," she says quietly.

Nicole swears she's not joking when she says it's Gallagher's favourite song on the album. "He's the biggest All Saints fan!" she insists. "Always!"

Working on their first album since 2006's poorly received Studio 1, Nicole says the four-some, which also includes her childhood best friend Melanie Blatt, speak their own language in the studio.

"We share this really silly sense of humour," says Nat-



All Saints, from left, Shaznay Lewis, Natalie Appleton, Melanie Blatt and Nicole Appleton have reunited for their fourth album, Red Flag. CONTRIBUTED

alie. For example, in-studio, Nicole is known as The Fonz. "She looks like a Fonz!" insists Natalie.

During their hiatus, both Nicole and Natalie put their musical life on the backburner. "I felt like the industry can be a bit daunting at times, so I enjoyed putting that on the

shelf for awhile," says Natalie.

"I was just a mom," says Nicole, who has a 14-year-old son with Gallagher, Gene, who she says plays drums and guitar and loves rock music.

"It was nice to walk away from it for a bit. It was nice to have a little bit of me time and a little bit of son time."

But it's All Saints' camaraderie that has brought them back together.

"It's just been amazing," says Natalie.

"I'm just so grateful and fortunate that I get to see my sister everyday, and I get to see my best friends everyday."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

BRIEFS

ASAP Ferg announces new album, collaborations

ASAP Ferg is teaming up with Missy Elliot, Future and Skrillex on his new album. The hip hop artist has also brought in Chris Brown, Ty Dolla \$ign and Big Sean to feature on the upcoming record, titled Always Strive And Prosper, NME reports. The star announced the news by publishing the track list to the 18-track album, which will be released later this month. AFP

Law & Order to dramatize true crime stories

Law & Order is set to get a new lease of life with a new anthology drama. An eight-part scripted series Law & Order: True Crime is currently in development for NBC, Deadline reports.

The new show will follow real crime stories, with the first instalment, Law & Order: True Crime — The Menendez Brothers Murders examining Lyle and Erik Menendez's 1989 murder of their parents. The brothers were sentenced to life imprisonment with no parole option in 1996. AFP

CELEBRITY COURT

'Every rape is not a gender-motivated hate crime': Judge

Pop star Kesha's claims that producer Dr. Luke violated human rights and hate crime laws by drugging, sexually abusing and emotionally tormenting her were dismissed Wednesday, with a judge saying that rape isn't necessarily an act of gender hatred.

Manhattan state Supreme Court Justice Shirley Werner Kornreich ruled in the platinum-selling singer's civil-court clash with the hit-making producer, who denies the singer's accusations and hasn't been charged with any crime.

Kesha's claims that Dr. Luke violated her rights by raping and abusing her can't go forward because the alleged incidents happened outside New York, stretch beyond legal time limits and don't meet the high legal bar for "intentional infliction of emotional distress," the judge said.

"Her claims of insults about her value as an artist, her looks and her weight are insufficient to constitute extreme, outrageous conduct intolerable in a civilized society," Kornreich wrote, adding that Kesha didn't say that Dr. Luke's alleged attacks were spurred by animus toward women.

"Every rape is not a gender-motivated hate crime," the judge



Kesha leaves Supreme Court in New York in this file photo from February. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

wrote. Lawyers for the singer and Dr. Luke didn't immediately respond to requests for comment on the ruling, which left standing a portion of Kesha's claims involving contract issues.

Meanwhile, Kesha is appealing an earlier ruling rejecting a bid to be freed from her contract, Dr. Luke's breach-of-contract claims against her are ongoing, and so are California and Tennessee lawsuits surrounding a dispute that has rippled through the entertainment business.

Kesha fans have called on Sony to sever ties with Dr. Luke. The maker of an upcoming PBS mini-

series about pop music has said he's considering cutting scenes with Dr. Luke, and Kesha has gotten an outpouring of support from celebrities, including Taylor Swift, Adele and Lady Gaga.

Kesha has said she can't work with a "monster" whom she accuses of raping her a decade ago after giving her a pill that knocked her out.

She also said he bullied her to lose weight until she was so traumatized that she developed an eating disorder and spent two months in a rehabilitation clinic in 2014.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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From 1961 to 1989 a wall literally and emotionally divided Berlin. Today, parts — sometimes covered in '80s graffiti — can be seen at Bernauer Strasse and the Mauermuseum. PHOTOS LOREN CHRISTIE FOR METRO

Traces of a city divided

Berlin is one of today's great art and cultural capitals. It also has a fascinating recent past, in part due to the wall that divided it for 28 years. **Loren Christie** spent 48 hours in this trailblazing city and reports back with a danke schön.

METRO CANADA



Berlin is a city with emotional intelligence; acutely aware of its place as ground zero for much of the troubled history of the 20th century while embracing its status as a political and cultural trailblazer in the 21st.

I recently spent a weekend in Berlin and despite my limited time and the city's size — 3.5 million people spread out over almost 900 square kilometres — I was able to get a sense of this grand city.

It sounds unimaginative,

but the ubiquitous hop-on hop-off city tour is perfect for those on a schedule. The City Circle Tour includes a running commentary and has 18 stops including a couple around the Tiergarten, Berlin's massive inner city park and the former West Berlin downtown district of Charlottenburg.

The tour includes many references to the devastation of World War II and indeed the few pre-war buildings left standing are architectural stand-outs, but most of the

tour is focused on life between 1961 and 1989 when the Berlin Wall literally and emotionally divided the city. Checkpoint Charlie was the best known border crossing between East and West.

Today there is a small guardhouse left standing where you can get a Checkpoint Charlie stamp in your passport and have a photo taken with some character actor guards.

Across the street, the Mauermuseum tells the his-

tory of the Wall through photos, videos and newspaper articles.

The Brandenburg Gate, the site of Kennedy's "Ich bin ein Berliner" speech in 1963, is likely Berlin's most recognized monument.

It's a worthy photo stop and a short walk to many of the city's historic buildings, including the German Reichstag.

A broad boulevard lined with shops, the Kurfürstendamm is considered the

Champs-Élysées of Berlin. Skip the brand-name shops and go to the iconic KaDeWe department store. The sixth floor food stalls are foodie heaven and make a great lunch stop offering anything from traditional currywurst to fine French champagne and cheeses.

On my second day I squeezed in a visit to Bernauer Strasse where a large section of the wall still stands.

Sombre memorial plaques do an outstanding job ex-

plaining how brutal this period of history was for Berlin. It is best accessed via the Nordbahnhof subway station.

Don't miss the storyboards inside the station, which describe the ghost lines — West Berlin subway trains that passed through East Berlin.

The stations that once serviced the lines were shuttered to the East Berliners while anxious subway riders from the West trundled past the murky platforms lined with armed guards.

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London calling all Clash city rockers

PILGRIMAGE

City's punk-rock scene turns 40

From the Sex Pistols' rehearsal/living space to the scene of the Notting Hill riots witnessed by The Clash, if you're a fan of punk, London is a great place to set out on a pilgrimage to explore the neighbourhoods and locations that were its petri dishes.

First stop: Portobello Road to see the mural of Clash frontman Joe Strummer, which was painted after his death.

The bustling market selling knickknacks, clothing and antiques while passers-by peer at their iPhones creates a stark contrast to Strummer's anti-establishment vibe.

From there, head to Tavistock Road, the street that inspired Strummer's White Riot, his call to arms after a West Indian carnival ended in violence in Notting Hill in the summer of '76.

The Rough Trade record shop opened in 1976 on Kensington Park Road. Today it's on Talbot

IF YOU GO

London is marking 40 years since the summer that spawned punk with a series of events, gigs and exhibits this year. Visit punk.london for more information.

Road, filled with vinyl and CDs, its walls and ceiling adorned with posters featuring The Clash, Sex Pistols and others.

Near the Tottenham Court Road tube you can find Denmark Street, once known as London's Tin Pan Alley. Behind the NO.TOM guitar shop there's a tiny 19th century cottage where the Sex Pistols once lived.

It's covered with graffiti created by the Pistols' John Lydon (Johnny Rotten), including a drawing of the Pistols' manager Malcolm McLaren, and another of Nancy Spungen, Sid Vicious' girlfriend.

In Chelsea, at 430 King's Road, a giant "SEX" sign once hung outside a shop of the same name shared by McLaren,



The Clash, Sex Pistols and Buzzcocks played the Screen on the Green cinema Aug. 29, 1976, marking the end of the summer when punk was born. JONATHAN ELDERFIELD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

the Pistols' manager, and designer Vivienne Westwood.

Westwood still runs a boutique here called Worlds End.

Next stop: Camden Market. Today this thriving collection of bars, restaurants, shops and

stalls is overrun with shoppers, but on a ramp that's since been converted to steps, the Clash once posed for a photograph that became the iconic image adorning their first album.

Up the road is the Round-

house.

This fine music venue, originally a 19th century railway repair facility, has hosted performers since 1966.

The Clash played their fifth show here in September 1976.

The Pistols, The Damned, The Ramones and Patti Smith all played here too.

A Punk Weekender scheduled here for July 9 and 10 features music, prose and poetry as part of London's 40-year anniversary celebration.

Finally, head to the Islington neighbourhood, home to the Hope and Anchor pub, 207 Upper St., and Screen on the Green, 83 Upper St.

Hope and Anchor has a ground-floor pub, a small theatre space upstairs and music venue downstairs.

The basement's roster has included The Jam, The Ramones, The Police, The Stranglers, XTC, The Cure, Joy Division and The Pogues. Hope and Anchor also hosted pre-punk bands playing what was called pub rock, including a group led by Joe Strummer, the 101ers.

Screen on the Green, with a fabulous neon facade, hosts movies and live events.

It's one of the oldest cinemas in the U.K. The Clash, Sex Pistols and Buzzcocks played together there in 1976. It was the end of the long, hot summer when punk was born.

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Gonzaga sophomore Domantas Sabonis, son of Arvydas, has decided to skip the rest of his college career and declare for the NBA draft



Win in 1-2 and Koe's crew is through

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

No. 1 Canadians set to face Danes in fight to reach final

With an emphatic rout of the host, Canada has sent notice it's the team to beat heading into the playoffs at the men's world curling championship.

Kevin Koe's Calgary rink finished the round robin in first at 10-1, capping its run to the playoffs with an 8-7 win over Switzerland in Thursday's final draw at St. Jakobshalle arena.

After posting a few shaky wins to start the tournament, Canada rounded into form and almost ran the table. Koe's only hiccup was a 4-3 extra-end loss to defending champion Sweden on Wednesday.

"It's a pretty tough field, lots of good teams, and obviously we would have taken (10-1) at the start of the week," Koe said. "So it's been a great week and now we're looking forward to the playoffs."

Canada, rounded out by third Marc Kennedy, second Brent Laming, lead Ben Hebert and alternate Scott Pfeifer, rebounded

from its lone loss with a 6-4 win over Norway earlier Thursday to clinch first place, then followed up with a win over Sven Michel's Swiss side, which finished a disappointing ninth at 4-7.

Canada will have the hammer when it plays Denmark (8-3) in the 1-2 Page playoff game on Friday. Rasmus Stjerne and the Danes finished second with an 8-7 win over Sweden (6-5) in the last draw. After starting his title defence with four straight wins, Swedish skip Niklas Edin will be heading home.

"The experience helps; I've won 1-2 games, lost 1-2 games," said Koe, a world champion in 2010 with a different team.



We won't get too high or low about the outcome.

Kevin Koe's mindset ahead of the 1-2 Page playoff

Denmark took Canada to an extra end last Sunday, with a shaky Canadian team scoring three in the 11th for an 11-8 win.

"We played a good game against Canada, but they seem to have picked up their pace since then but I think we got to stick to our process right now and give ourselves a chance on every shot," said Stjerne.

The 3-4 Page playoff goes Saturday between third-place Yusuke Morozumi of Japan (8-3) and fourth-place John Shuster of the U.S. (8-3).

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Kevin Koe's Calgary-based rink finished 10-1 in round-robin play in Basel, Switzerland.

GEORGIOS KEFALAS/KEYSTONE VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

CFL adopts video official for reviews

The CFL's board of governors voted Thursday to expand video review for the upcoming season.

It's one of 10 rule changes proposed by the CFL's rules committee that the league's board of governors adopted.

The CFL will add a video official in the command centre to address obvious errors not covered by replay challenges. One example would be when both the offence and defence jump into the neutral zone before the snap, the replay official could examine the play and communicate to the referee which team jumped first.

According to the CFL, the video official would be a first in North American pro sports.

The league has also deemed offensive pass interference, illegal contact and illegal interference on pass plays as reviewable.

Penalties reviewable by a coach's challenge will also include called illegal blocks on kick plays, roughing the passer or kicker and illegal interference at the point of reception on kickoff attempts.

"Expanding what can be reviewed will not result in a slower game because coaches are not being provided with additional reviews per game," Glen Johnson, the CFL's senior vice-president, football, said in a statement. "In fact, we're looking to reduce the number of delays and the number of penalties, while improving the quality of the game and protecting the health of our players."

League governors also voted to disallow players from pushing blockers through gaps in the offensive line on one-point converts and field-goal tries. The CFL also expanded the definition of a "peel-back" block.

It's now illegal for an offensive player to block an opponent low anywhere on the field when he's moving towards his goal-line rather than those starting the play in the tackle box.

The CFL also modified what constitutes illegal procedure. Line players can now move slightly, point, or make signals for blocking assignments while in a three-point stance prior to the snap. THE CANADIAN PRESS

+ MORE CHANGES

Off-setting penalties would be created for scenarios such as when the defence is offside and the offence commits holding on the offside player. That will result in no yardage difference being applied and a replay of the down.

Teams allowing a field goal in the last three minutes of a game will no longer have the choice of scrimmaging the ball instead of receiving a kickoff.

Players giving an opponent's offensive ball to a fan after a turnover will no longer be flagged for objectionable conduct.

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NHL IN BRIEF

3-on-3 overtime format leading to less shootouts

The NHL is getting its wish with 3-on-3 overtime. Far fewer games have been settled in the shootout this season following the introduction of the new overtime format. In fact, the NHL is on track to have 36 per cent fewer shootouts from last season, from 170 a year ago to something approaching 109 this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crosby leads Penguins past Capitals in OT

Sidney Crosby scored in overtime and the streaking Pittsburgh Penguins rebounded after blowing a three-goal lead to beat the Washington Capitals 4-3

on Thursday night to clinch home-ice advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

The Penguins have won eight games in a row and 14 of their past 15.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Islanders sweep season series with crosstown rival

John Tavares had a goal and an assist, Thomas Greiss made 36 saves and the New York Islanders earned their first regular-season sweep of their rivals with a 4-1 victory over the New York Rangers on Thursday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Thursday night's Flames-Canucks game at the Saddledome.

Gamble lifts Spieth to lead



Jordan Spieth plays his second shot on the 11th hole on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES

MASTERS

Defending champ shoots 6-under 66 in opening round

The shot was so risky that Jordan Spieth's caddy practically begged him not to try it Thursday in the Masters.

A great shot always beats a bad decision.

"That was one of the best shots I've ever hit in tournament competition given where it was," Spieth said of his escape from the pine trees on the 11th hole. "And I was laughing afterwards. That's how dumb the decision was, and pulled it off."

Spieth was coming off a birdie on the 10th that put him at 4 under and in the lead during a deceptively windy day at Augusta National. He blocked his tee shot to the right on the 11th hole and didn't have many options. His ball was on the pine straw. By going through the widest gaps in the trees, he figured the best he could have done was punch it out to 100 yards or more from the green. His caddy, Michael Greller, at one point motioned back to the fairway.

Spieth picked the tiny gap in the trees.

"I would like, if anyone gets a chance, to go look at that shot," said Spieth, who enters Friday with the lead after a bogey-free 6-under 66.

"Because Michael did everything in his power to call me off of hitting that shot. I had a 4-iron in my hands from about 210 (yards). And I had a gap where it had to rise over a tree, under another branch and split."

The shot came off perfectly, though there was one last moment where Spieth held his breath. The ball took a hard hop to the left when it reached the green, running fast toward the water. He bit his lip. He grit his teeth and said quietly, "Bite." It held up on the collar, and Spieth repeatedly slapped his thigh.

He had to make a seven-foot putt to escape with par.

Spieth's closest pursuers were Danny Lee and Shane Lowry, who both carded a 4-under 68.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Blue Jays starting pitcher Marcus Stroman throws during practice on Thursday in Toronto. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

MLB

Stroman relishes role as Blue Jays ace

The signs of Blue Jays starter Marcus Stroman's ascension are everywhere you look at Rogers Centre.

He's featured prominently on a large banner outside the stadium. Get off the elevator at field level and he's in full howl mode on a large mural. He was the lone player to hold a pre-workout media availability Thursday.

All of 24 years old, Stroman has become one of the faces of the franchise. After a brief but impressive run in September and the playoffs last season, he's ready for his new role as staff ace.

He'll get the start in Friday night's home opener against the Boston Red Sox at Rogers Centre.

"My mentality is to take the ball and go nine every single time I go out there," he said. "That won't change at all and

(I plan) to have that lion mentality out there through it all and just to keep my brothers in position to win.

"I just take that approach into every game."

A live wire on the mound, Stroman has electric stuff and the energy to match.

He'll bound off the hill after a strikeout, shout at himself to get pumped up, all while pounding away at a big wad of bubble gum.

He's fun to watch and leads a team that appears primed to take a run at a second straight division title.

"I think the mentality and the hunger and the motivation with this group is very different from any other teams," Stroman said. "We don't get distracted by any of that outside noise. We have one purpose when we show up each and every day."

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8.	155.70 Acres - 5;1;21;7;NE
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11.	160 Acres - 5;1;21;7;SW
12.	157.79 Acres - 5;2;21;1;SE
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Anyone interested in submitting an offer to purchase any or all of the lands described above should contact Lexy R. Wong as set out below to obtain an offer package which will contain additional information about the lands and the terms and conditions which the Estate may consider when reviewing the offers.

All offers shall be submitted in writing in the form provided in the offer package and delivered no later than 12:00 p.m. MST (noon) on April 18, 2016 to the following:

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RECIPE Veggie Pot Pie



PHOTO: MAVA VISNVEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Who says vegetarian meals can't be comfort meals?

Ready in

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes

Ingredients

- 4 Tbsp butter
- 1 1/2 lbs diced mushrooms
- 2 cups butternut squash, 1-inch cubes
- 2 stalks celery, sliced
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 1 onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbsp fresh thyme
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1 cup low-sodium vegetable broth
- 1/2 cup light cream
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 x 397-gram package frozen puff pastry
- 1 egg

Directions

1. Allow puff pastry to thaw on the counter for one hour. Preheat

the oven to 400 degrees.

2. In a large pot, melt butter over medium heat. Put onion, garlic, squash, mushrooms, celery, thyme and pepper in pot and sauté for 12 to 15 minutes. Sprinkle flour over vegetables, stir and cook for 2 minutes. Add stock, cream and frozen peas and simmer for a couple minutes.

3. Roll out your puff pastry to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut into squares that will fit your ramekins and flop over the edges.

4. Ladle your vegetable mixture into your ramekins. Place a pastry lid over each. Quickly whisk an egg with a bit of water in a small bowl. Brush over top of each pie. Score slits into the pastry tops with a sharp knife.

5. Place the ramekins on a cookie sheet and cook for 25 to 30 minutes until the crusts are golden. Allow to cool before serving.

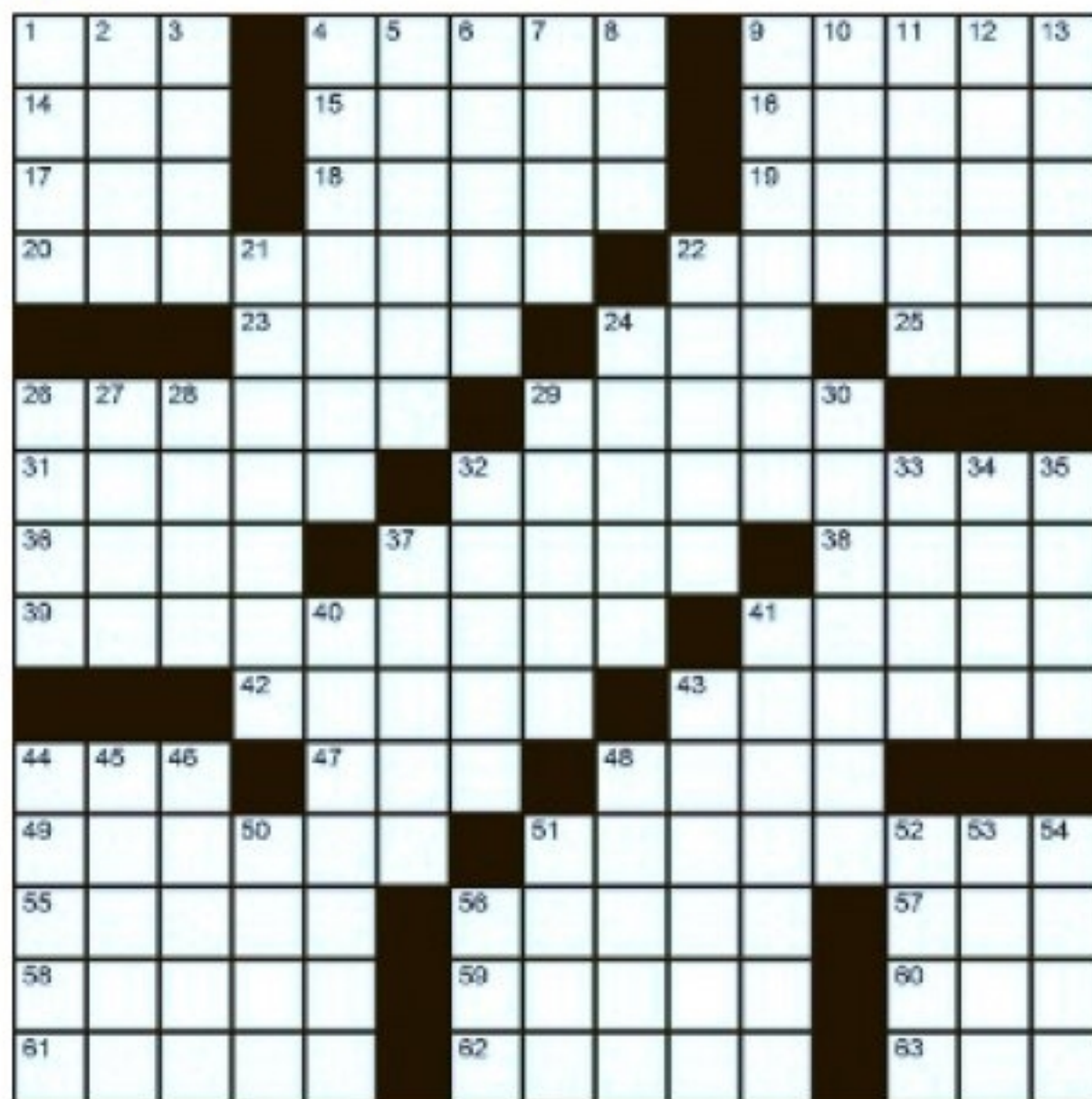
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ACROSS

1. Vitality
4. "Blue __ Shoes"
9. Receded, as tidewater
14. Red Cross mission
15. Invest with funding
16. Thousand: French
17. Alkali
18. Type of skirt
19. __ donna
20. Pitching-a-tent part of a provincial park
22. Window type
23. Acorns grow on them
24. Uncooked
25. Open with might
26. Inconvenience
29. Loved ones, in Spanish = __ queridos
31. Spew
32. The Battle of __ (The great victory, and sacrifice, of the Canadian Corps of April 9th to April 12th, 1917)
36. Molokai feast
37. Seal
38. " __ " cried the cat
39. Enduring
41. Shredded Wheat cereal stuff
42. Deli side orders
43. One creating too much motion on the pinball machine
44. Seer's skill, shortly
47. 51s ...ancient Rome style
48. Kind of apple
49. Urban __
51. Hat of Mexico
55. Ben Stiller's actress



mother Anne
56. Costless: 2 wds.
57. Kitchen floors cleaner
58. Ewoks' forest moon home
59. Brenda __, Reporter (Classic comic strip)
60. Suffix with 'Glycer'

61. Rose to one's feet
62. Least best
63. Amount of the Roman Numeral X

DOWN

1. Accountant's tool, briefly
2. "Hey there!": 2 wds.

3. 'Ditto' in a footnote
4. Sprinkled seasoning that's fancier than the usual: 2 wds.
5. Different
6. Modifies magazines
7. Exhausted
8. Meadows mother

9. Give a boost of strength and confidence
10. Whirring sound
11. Sight in the sky over a sports stadium
12. " __ Gantry" (1960)
13. Darling
21. Arboreal mar-

supials
22. Ms. Hannah
24. Send payment
26. Self-__ book
27. Flu symptom
28. Burn slightly in cooking
29. Road postings on posts
30. Resembling
32. Those of debating sides mostly conflict
33. Owed-money
34. Ex-VP Al
35. Something spouted
37. Garden gastropod
40. As per #32-Across... Walter Seymour __ (Toronto-born sculptor who designed the monument in France commemorating the Canadians who fought in The Great War)
41. Hazelnut
43. Lion __ (Circus performers)
44. Namesakes of Carlisle Cullen's wife in 'Twilight' movies
45. Like no-longer-in-the-account money
46. Museum attraction in Madrid
48. Succeed: 2 wds.
50. Suffix with 'Buck'
51. __ speak
52. Give off
53. Cycled
54. Sign on the store's door
56. Li'l Australian state

*** IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake**

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is an excellent day for business and commerce. If shopping, you will appreciate what you buy. Trust your money-making ideas.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Today the Moon is in your sign, dancing with lucky, moneybags Jupiter. It's a great day to plan a vacation or a social event. Enjoy playful times with children.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a feel-good day, and you have a warm feeling in your tummy. Enjoy all your encounters with others, especially family and friends. Invite the gang over for a barbecue!

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is a wonderful day to schmooze with friends and members of groups. You are high-viz now, and people easily admire you. Make the most of this!

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
People in power (bosses, parents and teachers) are impressed with you today. For some reason, personal details about your private life are made public. Oh well.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Do something to shake it up a bit, because you want to broaden your horizons today. Go someplace you've never been before. Travel if you can.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a good day to discuss touchy subjects about inheritances, taxes and debt. People are in a good mood and inclined to agree. Quite likely, you will benefit.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Relations with partners and close friends are smooth and friendly today. This is also a good day to deal with members of the general public.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Co-workers are supportive today. Some of you will enjoy work-related travel. You can learn something new on the job that expands your experience of the world.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
This is a party day for your sign! Make plans to enjoy fun diversions with others. Sports events, playful times with children and romantic liaisons will be fun and thrilling.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Real-estate deals will be excellent today. This is also a good day to do anything to improve your home or your relationship with family members.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Writers, editors, teachers and actors are favored today, because your communication skills are hot. It's easy to be in a positive frame of mind, because you're happy.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD

To be distinguished, commitment and sacrifice are paramount. Such was the case of Daniel and the three youths when they made up their minds not to defile themselves with the King's food. God favoured them and even, "in all matters requiring information and balanced judgment, the king found these young men's advice ten times better than that of all the skilled magicians and wise astrologers in his realm." (Daniel 1:20 TLB).

You can go against all odds and stand out in your group by surrendering all to Jesus.

For prayers and counseling call the pastor at 403.970.5000

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